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THE resignation of Mr. McCall as president of the New York Life insurance company will be regretted by those most concerned in its welfare, its owners. The resignation was not called for by the policyholders, the agents or the trustees. It was not demanded by the best interests of the company, present or future. We believe that Mr. McCall could have remained at the head of the New York Life with the approbation of its policyholders so long as he would consent to serve it. But in his sense of loyalty to the great corporation which he has so magnificently built up and to which he is attached by every sentiment of duty, pride and affection, he has thought only of the possible injury that might come to its interests from outside and foreign influences—even though but temporarily—if he continued in office. We are sure we voice the hope of life underwriters that this great administrator will not be lost to life insurance. It is understood that Mr. Orr has no intention of occupying the presidency permanently. His successor should be a man who knows the insurance side of the New York Life as Mr. McCall did, who is himself an executive officer of the highest quality, and who will bring to the supreme management the best traditions of its success in the past ten years. Vice President Kingsley supplies these qualifications.

OUR usual tabular records of insurance business in the preceding year appear in this week's issue. In summing up results it may be said that fire insurance has shared in the general prosperity. There has been expansion proportionate with increase and growth in all the interests which depend upon fire insurance for protection. The rates which were strengthened as a consequence of the disastrous conflagrations of 1903 and 1904 have been maintained, and with a comparatively lighter fire loss and a marked appreciation in the values of investments, there has been a fair margin of profit on the year's business. Conditions, however, have been exceptionally favorable. They may not continue in 1906, and it behooves the underwriter to keep his powder dry and be always prepared for a turn. It is the general belief of our industrial captains that prosperity will not wane for some time to come. But in fire insurance the burning of a great city ever impends, and the recent revelations of conditions in New York by the Committee of Twenty show how near the business sails to the rocks. One other factor of uncertainty remains—the course of State legislation in 1906. The life insurance troubles have undoubtedly strengthened the hands temporarily of the habitual baiters of fire insurance, and they will be inclined to make the most of their opportunity.

UNTIL the life insurance companies publish their annual statements the question must wait, whether the volume of business in 1905 was less than that of the preceding year. That much insurance lapsed in consequence of the distrust created by the legislative investigating committee and its newspaper allies cannot be doubted. On the other hand most of the lesser companies and at least one of the greater promise to report increased transactions. With active canvassers of the small companies, the charges against the giants of official mismanagement must have helped. Upon the whole, considering again the advantages derived from general prosperity and from the advertising that life insurance has had from the investigation, it will not be a matter for surprise if the year's business shows a little improvement. The vigorous assurances of the State insurance commissioners and of others having the confidence of the public, that the life insurance companies are financially sound and entirely competent to meet all their obligations at maturity, came in time to check any large disposition toward cancellation by policyholders. A conspicuous effect of the disturbance has been the production of new life insurance companies. It will be seen by reference to our list of new organizations in 1905 that there were sixty-three of these creations on the legal reserve plan, while there was an increase at the same time in the number of new assessment associations. The idea appears to have possessed a good many minds that the dissatisfaction with the great companies under fire developed an opportunity for new companies, which might appeal successfully for local business. The experience of late years has been that the small new companies have had a hard struggle to maintain themselves against the competition of the older and stronger companies, and in most instances they have not succeeded. There is no reason to believe that conditions will be more favorable for the swarm of newcomers after confidence in the older companies is restored with the subsidence of the present disturbance. In the casualty and surety business during the past year there has been marked growth, but sharp competition has had the effect of keeping down the rates.

THE New York Legislature will no doubt wait upon the report of the Armstrong committee for such remedial life insurance legislation as it will be likely to pass. Meanwhile there is not much reason to be disturbed by the efforts of Senator Brackett to shape legislation according to his hates and prejudices. He has introduced a bill in the Senate which embraces all his well seasoned antipathies to the insurance business, as it has been conducted in the years that it has been growing to its present importance. It provides for such absurdities as the regulation of salaries of officers of the companies by the State Insurance Department, the publication of lists of policyholders for the benefit of "twisters" and the punishment of persons living abroad or out of the State, who will not come to New York when they hear that subpœna servers want

them. The bill also proposes to strangle the industrial insurance of minors, which Mr. Brackett believes encourages the working classes to murder their helpless offspring. It changes the superintendent of insurance from an appointive to an elective officer. Why a superintendent selected by a political convention controlled by party bosses will be purer than one chosen by the present method is not strikingly apparent. Of the forty odd States having insurance departments but four elect their heads by popular vote, and their products have not differed from those provided in the prevailing manner. The Senator's eagle eye is also fixed on the twin wickedness of fire insurance, and he has brought forward again that old stager, the anti-compact bill. He has likewise invited Senator Depew to resign because he accepted fees from the Equitable Life for legal services after the immemorial custom of members of his modest profession. The spectacle of the attorney of the gambler Canfield rebuking the sin of taking fees in a brother lawyer must cause wild laughter on High Olympus.

Facts and Opinions.

We invite attention to an article in another column by Dr. William A. Fricke on the results of the late legislative investigation of life insurance and the inferences to be drawn from the testimony which was elicited, with the view of correcting conditions that need change. No writer upon life insurance is better qualified to offer advice than the author of this thoughtful article.

The presidency of the **Provident Savings Life** Assurance Society of New York was resigned on Thursday by Edward W. Scott, and ex-Lieutenant Governor Timothy L. Woodruff was elected by the board of directors to succeed him. Mr. Scott becomes chairman of the board, and will continue to give his valuable experience to the service of the company. The new president at a meeting of the officers and general agents of the society on Thursday made the following official statement:

Mr. Edward W. Scott, who has for nine years, as you all know, vigorously performed the duties of president of this company, has today resigned the office of president and been chosen chairman of the board of directors. I have been elected to succeed him as president. Mr. Scott has been actuated by his recognition of the criticism aimed at concentrated personal control of life insurance companies, and I, holding 1,125 of the 1,250 shares of the capital stock, moved by the same spirit, have made a declaration of trust whereby the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society is to receive all the benefits that may accrue or can be derived from the operation of this trust. In the position of chairman of the board of directors Mr. Scott's lifelong experience and knowledge of life insurance cannot fail to be of benefit to the company. Happily this organization has seen fit to reorganize itself within itself, and while my experience in the life insurance business has been limited to a directorship of four years' duration in this company, I thoroughly recognize the aroused public sentiment regarding this vital question, and deeply feeling the duty imposed upon me I am determined to do all in my power, in co-operation with the other officers, to strengthen and upbuild this great organization.

The resignation of Edward W. Scott, Jr., as superintendent of agencies was also received and accepted. The action of ex-President Scott undoubtedly conduces to the welfare of the company, which will continue to thrive under the old management of which he is still a part and the new executive head. Governor Woodruff is a strong, clear headed man, and in his public career has always possessed the confidence of the people of New York without distinction of party.

The annual statement of the **National Life insurance company of Vermont** appears in our issue today. The following are the principal figures: Cash income in 1905, $7,441,666; disbursements, $4,416,317; assets, $34,519,093; surplus, $3,821,752.51. The year showed the following signs of growth:

Increase in insurance	$10,719,350
Increase in assets	3,120,639
Increase in income	546,652
Increase in payments to policyholders	398,538
Increase in surplus	363,676
Insurance issued	26,318,183
Insurance in force	145,480,904

In his address to the agents of the company Vice President Estee says:

While the home office is especially gratified with the net results in new issues for the year, we find still greater satisfaction in the belief that the quality of the business is of a higher grade than has characterized the issues in recent years. We opened the year with a determination to use all influence to secure every dollar of good business that could be had and to discourage the presentation of a single dollar of undergrade business, either in the quality of the risk, the standing of the applicant or the method of solicitation. We believe that under no circumstances should quality be sacrificed to quantity. We believe gains in insurance and premiums in force to be a higher standard than simple new issues. We seek only the best that every community in which we are entered for the transaction of business can supply. While this course has been consistently pursued in past years, we have laid especial emphasis upon it during the present year and wish that thought and spirit projected into the work of the coming year.

The insurance committee of the **New York Chamber of Commerce** submitted a report at the meeting of the chamber this week. In the opinion of the committee no additional investigation by the Legislature is necessary, as the work of the Armstrong Committee has covered all those points from which recommendations for remedial legislation can be made. The report also says:

No restrictive legislation can insure honesty of administration and enforce economy. These essential features in all fiduciary positions must of necessity be left to the directors as well as the executive officers, and while restrictive legislation may not be conducive to the best administration, there should be a rigid requirement of publicity in respect to all the affairs of organizations of this character requiring each company to publish its annual statement, with the details of its expenses and other items, relating to the administration; and, further, that a semi-annual examination be made of all the details of the appropriations of funds used in corporations of this kind. Publicity is really the best means of keeping those who hold fiduciary positions under the eye of the public. It thereby gives to the officers and directors a realizing sense of the obligations resting upon their administration, as has been evidenced by the rapidity with which reforms have been instituted since publicity has been given to the internal affairs of these companies.

The report concludes:

Resolved, That the Chamber, in the interests of pure commercial life, enters its solemn protest against the practices which have resulted in thus tarnishing the good name of our financial institutions and of bringing reproach upon our commercial community.

The **Underwriters' Laboratories at Chicago,** in order to familiarize the firemen with sprinkler equipments, had them visit its headquarters in squads some time ago, when demonstrations were given them of the working of the systems. It is believed that much of the better feeling of the Chicago firemen as to sprinkler equipments is due to this, as little of the former objection to coupling engines onto the sprinklers in case of fire now remains. The laboratories now announce that they are willing to make the same demonstrations for the firemen of suburban or neighboring towns and cities on due notice. The reports presented at the annual meeting of the Underwriters' Laboratories showed it to be in a flourishing condition. It is now installed in its new quarters on the North Side, where it has plenty of room and appliances for its work. The building is held to be the most thoroughly fireproofed in Chicago, and is, in addition, an exhibition in itself of fireproof material. Every kind of wire glass made in the United States is represented, and various sections were installed by makers of fireproofing materials. In consequence the building committee was able to put up a superior structure

without expending all of the amount allotted to it, while doing more than was originally planned.

A correction of the statement sent out from Columbus, Ohio, to the New York *World* to the effect that **Insurance Superintendent Drake,** of the District of Columbia, while visiting Columbus, declared that he went there at the request of President Roosevelt to confer with Superintendent Vorys concerning a uniform code of insurance laws which the President would be willing to acept as a substitute for Federal supervision, has been made by Superintendent Drake. He says:

I beg to state that I was not interviewed while in Columbus, Ohio, on the 23d inst., by the representative of any newspaper; the President did not send me to Columbus to confer with Superintendent Vorys, of Ohio; neither did he send me to any other State "to acquaint the commissioners with his views regarding the legislation to be framed," etc. I went to Ohio to attend to business that was entirely of a personal nature, and on my way back to Washington I stopped at Columbus to attend to matters there of a like character, after which I visited my colleague there, in a social way, and a number of other friends of many years' standing in that city, which is near the place of my nativity. It is true that President Roosevelt wants uniform State insurance laws—a measure that I have advocated, and I have been working on at intervals for several years past, for the District of Columbia—but the President also wants national insurance supervision, and he will urge the adoption of both these measures—they do not conflict at all—during the present session of Congress. This I know to a certainty.

The **estimated loss by fire** in the United States and Canada in the **month of December,** according to the compiler of the *Journal of Commerce,* was $15,276,600. A comparison of the year's losses with those of 1903 and 1904 by months is as follows:

	1903.	1904.	1905.
January	$13,166,350	$21,970,200	$16,378,100
February	16,090,000	90,051,000	25,591,000
March	9,970,650	11,212,150	14,751,400
April	13,549,000	23,623,000	11,901,350
May	16,366,800	15,221,400	12,736,250
June	14,648,350	10,646,700	11,789,800
July	12,838,600	11,923,200	13,173,250
August	8,428,350	9,715,200	11,435,600
September	9,939,450	14,387,650	13,715,250
October	10,409,800	12,866,200	12,267,000
November	13,589,550	11,515,000	16,178,200
December	17,224,700	19,422,350	15,276,600
Total year	$156,195,600	$252,364,050	$175,157,800

The New York *Times* indulges in the following comments on **Mr. McCall's resignation** as president of the New York Life insurance company:

President McCall carried on the insurance business as it has been carried on in other companies during the past fifteen years. He practiced the same methods; he achieved like brilliant results. The errors charged against the others he committed. It was all a part of the system, and now he falls a victim to the system. Of his capacity, of the success of his methods, the trebling of the company's assets during his presidency, the trebling of its income, the quadrupling of its yearly payments to policyholders, and the increase of insurance in force by nearly $1,500,000,000, afford ample proof. The company will, indeed, be fortunate if along the safer lines upon which all insurance business will be conducted in future it shall reap the benefits of an administration equal to Mr. McCall's in energy and ability. For his errors there is no defense, no palliation. But every just and candid man must feel that it is a pity, that it is a loss to the business world, that a talent so exceptional should be withdrawn untimely from productive employment. There could be no surer evidence that the system was evil past all tolerance than the fact that such an insurance president as Mr. McCall had to retire because of it.

One of the purposes of the Reference Bureau recently organized by the **Life Underwriters' Association of New York** is to furnish members with the names of irresponsible agents. Members of the association are urging the bureau to include in its work the reception of information regarding cases of rebating, so that they may be investigated and the offenders discharged when convicted. Since all the leading companies have been under agreement with the Life Underwriters' Association for several years not to employ rebaters, it will be impossible for such agents to continue in the business. The members of the association in charge of the bureau are T. R. Fell, 1170 Broadway, chairman; J. Carlton Ward, 621 Broadway; M. E. Goulden, 180 Broadway; L. A. Cerf, 137 Broadway; D. G. C. Sinclair, 11 East Thirty-fourth street, and C. J. Edwards, 204 Montague street, Brooklyn.

For the purpose of accelerating the movements to prevent **rebating in life insurance,** the three principal life insurance companies—the Mutual, Equitable and New York Life—have united in organizing a court of last resort for the settlement of disputes between companies and their agents and companies and their policyholders in cases of rebating. Ex-President Grover Cleveland has consented to accept the direction of this court as referee. Before doing so, however, he insisted upon pledges by all the companies that they will honestly and energetically support him by taking their own measures in suppressing rebating, and they have decreed that any agent found guilty of the sin will be dismissed from service and forever be debarred from employment by the contracting parties. It is hoped that other companies will join this compact. The annual salary of the referee has been fixed at $12,000 per annum.

A contest on a technicality by the "fraternal" insurance **Order of Pilgrim Fathers** was last Wednesday overruled by the full bench of the Massachusetts Supreme Court, which declared that the order was beholden to Joseph C. Abbott, beneficiary on the certificate of his brother, Lemuel, for $2.000. It appears that in the summer of 1904, when Abbott was ill at the Massachusetts General Hospital, he sent for his brother Joseph for the purpose of transferring to him the benefit of the certificate, Lemuel's wife, the original beneficiary, having died. But because the hospital authorities did not permit more than one person at a time to visit Abbott the number of witnesses required by the rules of the order could not be present when the transfer was made. Under the circumstances, however, the court held that the transfer was legal, and gave Abbott the verdict.

In his message to the board of aldermen Mayor McClellan comments upon the inefficiency of the **fire alarm system of New York,** and asks for the immediate installation of 500 new fire alarm boxes and for the erection of a building to be used exclusively for a fire alarm central office. Regarding the water supply for fire fighting purposes, the mayor says:

Contracts have been let for the two pumping stations and the necessary equipment, and a few days ago bids were opened for the distribution system which extends from Twenty-third street to Chambers street. All territory with these lines where the risk of the fire spread is great is to be gridironed with water mains 12 to 24 inches in diameter, supplied by a 60 inch main from the Central Park Reservoir, and connected at numerous places with the low pressure service. When this supply is insufficient salt water will be used, and the pumping stations have connections with both the North and East rivers. It will be possible to surround any hazardous block in that territory with sixty streams without using more than 500 feet of hose on any connection.

One of the largest accident policies ever issued in this country has just been underwritten through the office of J. S. Hirsh, managing agent of the **Fidelity and Casualty Company,** at 11 Broadway. The policy was taken out by Shubert & Connor, managers of **Mme. Sarah Bernhardt,** and covers their star to the extent of $125,000. It was written through American companies exclusively. Considering the fact that many companies do not write women, while others place the age limit at forty, the writing of this large line is made all the

more notable. In the past the Lloyds of London has speculated on the hand of a pianist or health of a monkey, but this is the first instance where the conservative American companies have waived their prejudice against stage favorites. Mme. Bernhardt has reason to feel complimented.

Suit against State **Insurance Superintendent Luling**, of Kansas, has been brought in the Federal Court at Topeka, Kan., by the **Illinois Life**, to compel him to turn over $600,000 in bonds which he is holding to protect policyholders in the old Kansas Mutual, bought by the Illinois company. Mr. Luling refused to turn the bonds over, claiming that the policyholders of the old Kansas Mutual had taken out insurance on the strength of representations made that the State had a big fund on hand to guarantee payment of losses. He declared emphatically that he would not release the bonds until forced to do so by a court decree. The Illinois Life therefore filed suit.

Present indications are that nothing will be done by the **Western Factory Insurance Association** as regards the membership of the American Fire of Philadelphia, because of its transfer to the Jameson & Frelinghuysen interests. Some members believed that as the Jameson & Frelinghuysen interests are active competitors of the factory association it is undesirable to have them in possession of the association reports and data. Assurances have been given, however, that these will not be misused, and that the information will not go out of the office, and it is probable that nothing will be done until an urgent reason develops, as under existing condition the companies will not try to stir up trouble.

The **Armstrong Investigation Committee** went out of existence on Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The last witness was Actuary Van Cise, of the Equitable, and the last act of Chief Counsel Hughes was to read a paper giving the payments made by the three great companies to daily newspaper men. A *Herald* man, M. M. Gilliam, received several thousand dollars from the Mutual in 1901. These shocking revelations were a fitting wind up of the proceedings so highly commended by the daily papers. Then a watch was presented by the committee to Chairman Armstrong. The report of the committee to the Legislature (which did not appoint it) will be made in about two weeks.

Rate troubles at Fremont, Ohio, growing out of the enforcement of separation, have been satisfactorily settled. The adjustment involves a recognition of the Sandusky Board rules, to which both W. M. Hobart, representing the Connecticut Fire, and Stephen Wolf & Sons, agents for the several Western Union companies, belong. The trouble arose from the agreement between Hobart and the companies to recognize the rule of the local board relative to the solicitation of expirations. Hobart claimed that he had to meet cut rates in order to hold his business because the agreement was not lived up to.

The twenty-third annual meeting of the **Boston Life Underwriters' Association** will take place at the Parker House next Tuesday afternoon, at 5 o'clock, when officers for the ensuing year are to be elected and other proper business transacted. An informal dinner, following the meeting, is to be complimentary to the Barnard brothers—Darwin and Franklin—who have recently retired from a long and honorable connection with the Penn Mutual Life as its general agents at Boston, and who rendered the association efficient service as president and secretary, respectively, in the earlier stages of its existence.

The demand on the part of **automobile** owners for some **insurance** protection **against collisions** has recently become so persistent that we understand that Johnson & Higgins, 49 Wall street, who were the originators of the present form of policy, covering against the risks of fire, theft, explosion and transportation, are now offering an additional insurance against damage sustained by the machine itself, as well as against any liability of the owner for damages to other property arising from the collision of the insured machine with any fixed or movable object, at a very reasonable cost. This protection has heretofore been unobtainable, owing to the unknown extent of the risks involved.

The organizer of the **Federal Life of Chicago,** J. Ellsworth Griffin, has brought suit to restrain the Federal Agency Company, which had a general agency contract with the life company, from selling its contract to the Union Securities Company. The court granted a temporary injunction on the filing of a bond, and the case will come up early in January. The Federal Life claims that Mr. Griffin has been antagonizing the company ever since he lost control, and that the proposed deal was entirely equitable and that they are willing to submit the decision to the court.

Stamping offices are to be dropped out gradually but steadily **in Ohio** as a result of the new decision of the companies to abolish such offices in States having anti-compact laws. Many Western managers were not aware that stamping offices conflicted with the Ohio law when the companies paid any share of the expense of maintenance. A committee of field men and managers is co-operating on a plan to abandon the offices with as little publicity as possible, and as little disturbance to the business.

The **double platoon experiment** in the Chicago fire department has ended, the term specified for the test having expired. Most of the men engaged in the test prefer the old system, holding that it gives them more liberties and would secure better results. The friends of the double platoon system are now urging a more general test, covering an entire battalion, but the necessary funds for the extra men cannot be secured, as a number of companies were depleted in order to make this formal test.

A Voice from the Tomb.—P. B. Armstrong has written a letter to Messrs. Peabody and Morton, of the Mutual and Equitable, respectively, in which he announces that because the companies are using "obsolete mortality tables," and because the expense loading is too high, and because of the net valuation of the policies in connection with numerous other considerations, life insurance companies are getting 55 per cent. more in premiums than they are entitled to possess.

When the new year dawned **Brockton, Mass.,** was struggling with a fire that destroyed the City Block, gutted the City Theatre building and the Field Block, and occasioned losses to buildings and contents placed at $225,000, with but $135,000 insurance. The hand of disaster lies heavily on this city, which only last summer was the scene of the memorable boiler explosion which wrecked the Grover shoe factory and cost a hundred human lives.

These officers have been elected by the newly organized **Underwriters' Salvage Company** of Chicago, which expects to begin business February 1: W. S. Warren, of the Liver-

pool and London and Globe, who was the leader in the organization, was made president, with E. G. Hall, of the Germania, as vice president; S. A. Rothermel, of the Traders, secretary, and P. D. McGregor, of the Queen, treasurer.

The "Reed" short rate table, adopted by the New England Insurance Exchange a month or two ago, was repudiated by that body at its meeting last Saturday, and the Western Union table reinstated. It is now practically certain that the companies will call upon the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters, one of whose members formulated the new table, to return to the old one.

If it is true, as averred, that the fire which destroyed the **Highland Baptist Church** at Springfield, Mass., Wednesday night was set, then a horrible responsibility rests on the **incendiary,** for in the work of extinguishment one fireman lost his life in the flames, another was fatally and two were seriously burned. The property loss is placed at $68,000, with $60,000 insurance.

Rates in the Indian Territory have been reduced 25 per cent. on preferred and mercantile business to bring them down to the general average of rates in Oklahoma, the two Territories being under the same rating jurisdiction. Conditions in the Indian Territory have materially improved because of the superior class of settlers, and the loss ratio has been low.

The Southwestern department of the **Palatine,** under General Agent Charles Janvier, consisting of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, has been rearranged. Charles Janvier is succeeded by Janvier & Lee for the States of Louisiana and Mississippi, Thames & Batre become general agents for Alabama and Beers, Kenison & Co. for Texas.

At the annual meeting of the **Cincinnati Underwriters' Association** on Thursday the regular ticket was elected for the present year as follows: President, C. C. Rothier; vice president, W. E. Clemons; treasurer, E. T. Weiss; secretary, William Strevelman; governing committee, William Klapert, William Strevelman, W. S. Heckle and J. C. Wright.

The Attorney General of Texas has rendered an adverse opinion of the **proposed Texas insurance bureau.** It was intended to inspect and classify insurance risks, collect statistics of losses, inspect fire protection and disseminate information thereon. The opinion holds that the bureau would be in violation of the anti-trust law of the State.

A St. Louis dispatch says that the **examination of the Mutual Reserve Life,** to be made for the Missouri Insurance Department, has been postponed to February because of the other engagements of S. H. Wolfe, the actuary who is to make the examination. Several other State departments may join with Missouri in the examination.

The Principals' and Superintendents' Association of Wisconsin, which is backing a scheme to organize a mutual fire insurance company of municipalities and boards of education **to carry scholhouse risks,** has secured only $15,000 of the $250,000 insurance required by law before the organization can begin issuing policies.

The **Illinois Life** reports a notably prosperous year, having issued nearly $12,000,000, a gain of $2,000,000, and giving it $43,000,000 of insurance in force, a gain of nearly $5,000,000. Death losses paid during '05 amounted to $485,000, beside $300,000 paid to living policyholders in matured policies and other cash values.

The Missouri Insurance Department has referred to the Attorney General the question as to whether life companies have a right to issue **"dated back" policies.** The department opposes the issuance of such policies, and will prohibit them in the State if it can be done under the law.

The Underwriters of the Middle Department have decided that on and after January 1 the rates on all specifically rated risks in **New Brunswick, N. J.,** except electrical property and sprinklered risks, and promulgated previous to July 1, are subject to a reduction of 10 per cent.

The **International Power Company** has obtained a contract from the city of Newark for several new fire engines of the Amoskeag type and for one automobile fire engine. Boston, Hartford, Pittsburgh and Portland, Me., are now using the auto engines.

Statements made by the **Texas** Insurance Commissioner led to the belief that he would not **renew the licenses of the big New York companies** under investigation on January 1, when they expired. He now announces formally that they will be renewed.

The agent of the Associated Press in Jefferson City, Mo., learns that **Insurance Superintendent Vandiver** will withhold his destroying hand from the New York Life now that Messrs. McCall and Perkins have retired.

The capital stock of the newly organized **Atlanta-Birmingham Life** of Atlanta, Ga., will be $1,000,000. The incorporators are prominent Atlanta and Birmingham capitalists, and the charter is expected in a few days.

The **Retail Merchants Mutual Fire** of Minneapolis and the Security Mutual Fire of Chatfield, Minn., will begin to write business in North Dakota January 1. Joint offices will be maintained in Grand Forks, N. Dak.

The **Victoria Fire of New York,** for the past two years serving the Union of London, which controls it, for reinsurance purposes in Massachusetts, has withdrawn from that State.

Five new underwriters have been added to the present list comprising the **New York Insurance Association,** of which Daniel Woodcock & Co. are attorneys.

Many applications for membership to the **Alliance Against Accident Frauds** have been passed upon in the last few days by the committee on membership.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Boston Insurance Company: Robert M. Coyle, sole agent at Philadelphia.

Connecticut Fire: A. P. Espenscheid, of Sedalia, special agent in Missouri, assisting State Agent Fleming.

Concordia: Darling & Russell, Boston, transferred from Prescott Chamberlain.

Continental Fire of New York: A. Zintgraff, special agent for North Texas, with headquarters at Dallas.

Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania: Stearns Brothers, Springfield, Mass.; Barrett & O'Brien, Northampton, Mass.

Mercantile Fire and Marine of Boston: William Levis, special agent for eastern Massachusetts and New Hampshire. The care of the field

south and west of Boston, formerly in charge of ex-Vice President Cram, has been added to the district of Special Agent H. T. Campbell.

National Lumber of Buffalo: W. B. Bierce, of Detroit, general agent for Michigan.

Phœnix of Hartford: H. P. Whitman, special agent for Louisiana and Mississippi, with headquarters at New Orleans.

Messrs. James W. Alexander and James H. Hyde have resigned from the board of directors of the Fidelity Trust Company of Newark and from the Union National Bank of that city. Their successors will be chosen at the annual meeting of the stockholders of those institutions next Tuesday. William R. McIntyre, formerly fourth vice president of the Equitable, and Henry R. Winthrop, who has remained with the society as financial manager, are still in the board of the Fidelity Trust, and it is understood that Mr. Winthrop will continue there.

Mr. Walton C. Taft, having been called to the management of the New York and Boston Despatch Express Company, has retired as an active partner from the firm of Taft & Parker, Boston, general agents for New England of the Empire Surety, though still retaining a financial interest as a special partner. The style of the firm remains unchanged. Mr. Taft has been associated with the express company since its establishment in 1874.

Messrs. Muller & Porter is the style of a new agency firm at Boston, representing the Glens Falls, Milwaukee Mechanics, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Dorchester Mutual Fire insurance companies, with headquarters at 17 Central street. It is composed of William A. Muller, who controls a large brokerage business, and F. W. Porter, who represented the companies above named at his former quarters in the Mason Building.

Mr. George P. Field, senior member of the insurance firm of Field & Cowles, Boston, deservedly prominent and popular among his colleagues, sustained on Friday afternoon of last week an operation for appendicitis, which gave his family and numerous friends the greatest concern; but he has rallied unexpectedly well, and his physicians hope to be able to declare him out of danger by next Monday.

Insurance Commissioner Nichols of Washington State has sent a letter to Superintendent Drake, chairman of the executive committee of the National Association of State Insurance Commissioners, declining to attend the convention of State officers called to meet at Chicago February 1, to take action on life insurance. He says that he doubts the wisdom of the movement.

Hon. John M. Pattison, president of the Union Central Life, will be inaugurated Governor of Ohio January 8. Final arrangements have not been completed for the administration of the insurance company during his term, but it is understood that he will not resign as president, and will retain a general supervision of the affairs of the company.

Mr. Joseph J. Devney, president of the "Insurance Educator Company," has disposed of his interest to the Louisville stockholders and severed his connection with the company. The office in Cleveland, Ohio, has been discontinued, and the business hereafter will be conducted by the Louisville management, which is the *Insurance Field*.

Mr. Nathan Warren, resident secretary of the Equitable Life at Boston, was given a mahogany library desk for New Year's by the society's general agents in that city, and the gift was accompanied by an embossed and illumined parchment, inscribed with sentiments of regard and loyalty, and signed by the givers.

Mr. W. A. Barton, of Greenville. S. C., district agent of the Travelers, has resigned to become manager for South Carolina of the Washington Life. He will also have the district agency for the plate glass, personal accident and health insurance of the Metropolitan Plate Glass and Casualty Company.

Mr. James Skinner, second vice president of the Northwestern Mutual Life, celebrated the fortieth anniversary of his connection with the company December 26. He began as a clerk, and claims that during the forty years he has never failed to visit the offices each business day, including holidays.

Mr. George A. Cram has resigned as vice president of the Mercantile Fire and Marine of Boston, and is succeeded by George R. Rogers. Mr. Cram returns to St. Louis, but retains his interest in the Simpson, Cram & Co. local agency of Boston.

Mr. George Peterson, a Cleveland, Ohio, agent for the Southern of New Orleans. was found unconscious at his home there December 22, and died while being removed in the ambulance to the Huron street hospital. Death was due to apoplexy.

Second Vice President Edgar B. Ward, of the Prudential of Newark, has announced his intention of declining a re-election when the next annual meeting of the company occurs. He has been in its active service thirty years.

Mr. R. H. Garrigue, formerly Western manager of the Merchants of Newark, and for several years past an adjuster in Chicago, has removed to California, where he will continue in the fire insurance business.

Mr. R. M. Baker, of Springfield, Ohio, has been promoted to the general agency of the Provident Savings Life of New York for northwestern Ohio. His headquarters will be at 551 Spitzer Building, Toledo, Ohio.

Mr. Harry H. Voght, of the Buffalo, N. Y., insurance firm of that name, died December 26 at his home after a four weeks' illness. Mr. Voght was born in Buffalo February 24, 1859.

Mr. James H. Todd, one of the best known insurance men in Delaware, died at his home in Dover Christmas night of neuralgia of the heart. He was sixty-four years old.

Mr. George U. Marvin, for years a Washington newspaper correspondent, has accepted the position of manager at Columbus, Ohio, for the Casualty Company of America.

Mr. J. A. Lassoe, manager of the liability department of the United States Casualty Company, who has been seriously ill with pneumonia, is reported out of danger.

Mr. N. A. McNeil, assistant United States manager of the Caledonian, has resigned, and is succeeded by R. C. Christopher, formerly second assistant manager.

Mr. Frederick H. Nash, late assistant Attorney General of Massachusetts, has become a member of the law firm of Choate, Hall & Stewart, Sears Building, Boston.

Mr. Robert J. Mix, superintendent of agents in the metropolitan district for the Equitable Life Assurance Society, has resigned.

Messrs. Richard A. and Robert H. McCurdy have resigned as trustees of the Mutual Life insurance company.

Mr. George G. Brown, of Cincinnati, has been appointed Ohio State agent for the United Surety Company.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Kentucky.

The following is that part of the message of Governor Beckham to the Legislature which relates to insurance, life and fire:

You will be called upon to give much time and attention to the subject of insurance, both life and fire, and I trust that from your deliberations about it some wise and beneficial legislation may result, and that as far as it is possible for this State by its laws to protect our people from the wrongs and peculations of some of these concerns you will leave nothing undone. The disclosures made in the past year of the corruption and crime in the management of a number of the large life insurance companies show conclusively that the interests of the people who have put their savings in them must be protected, if protected at all, by the strength and power of the law, and not left to the supposed conscience or integrity of the companies' officers any more than that a lamb could be safely entrusted to the conscience or altruism of the wolf.

The vast sums gathered up by these companies from the people are trust funds, as sacred as those in the hands of a guardian or administrator, and the corrupt use of them or the appropriation of them to evil purposes, by the officials in charge of them, is none the less embezzlement because of the fact that the amounts misused are so much larger than the sums for the theft of which men are usually put behind prison bars. The wasteful extravagance of these trust funds, the contributions to political campaigns, the grand larceny in the matter of exorbitant salaries, have, it is true, aroused universally public indignation at such gross violations of honesty by the officers of some of the companies, but we must not rely alone upon the expressions of an aroused public conscience, or the fulsome promises made by a reorganized company.

The remedy must be found in such just and strong enactments of law as will reduce to a minimum the possibility of these embezzlements happening in the future. There should be no disposition to unjustly injure these companies, or any legislation that would prevent their doing a legitimate and profitable business. A life insurance company, honestly and successfully conducted, is an advantage and blessing to many people, who, in such a way, can save a part of their earnings, and in event of death protect a dependent family from poverty.

I would, therefore, advise that any action we may take in this matter be guided by prudence and conservatism, and that while we should do all we can to guard the interests of the people, at the same time we should do nothing to destroy a legitimate business. Our Commissioner of Insurance, in his report, makes several recommendations for improvements in the law, and you should carefully consider what he has recommended, for I believe there is much merit in his suggestions. It seems to be the opinion of a great many authorities on the subject that the deferred dividend system is essentially wrong, and that the accumulation, by reason of it, of a large surplus in the hands of the company is a constant temptation to such extravagance and fraud as have been discovered in the recent investigations of several companies. I would advise, therefore, that you carefully examine into your power in the premises, and that if you find it would be effective, pass a law requiring a short period accounting of the surplus to the policyholders of the company.

I would also advise that you pass a law along practicable lines requiring a company doing business in the State to invest a certain portion of its earnings in Kentucky. It is a constant drain upon our money to send out every year a

large sum for insurance and to have no part of it re-invested in the State. Such a law as this would also operate to a certain extent to prevent the accumulation of vast sums in the money centres, where the policyholders' funds seem to have been, to their detriment, the prey of stock gamblers and financial pirates. Other measures of relief or improvement should be considered by you.

I also refer you to the consideration of the subject of fire insurance and the reports and suggestions of the Commissioner about it. After receiving several complaints from citizens about the rates charged by fire insurance companies in this State and some of them stating that the rates here were much higher than those charged in many other States, I requested the Commissioner last July to investigate these charges fully, and on November 6 he made a report to me of his investigations, with suggestions for some improvements in the laws on the subject. His report will be laid before you. The recommendations he makes are good and deserve your favorable consideration. A law establishing the office of a fire marshal seems especially worthy of your attention, for it would probably be a considerable check on incendiary losses, and thereby justify a reduction in the rates. The cost of establishing and running the office would be upon the companies and not upon the State. I request that you carefully read what the Commissioner says upon this and other measures which he advocates.

FRANKFORT, Ky., January 2.—A general insurance bill, prepared by Insurance Commissioner Prewitt, provides that every legal reserve life insurance company, organized or doing business in the State, shall keep invested in securities issued under and by virtue of laws of this State, or in mortgages upon improved real estate within this State, 80 per centum total reserve of all outstanding policies hereafter issued upon lives within this State, all of which investments shall be of the kind and character in which life insurance companies are authorized to invest under laws of this State. On or before the first day of March in each year every such insurance company shall file with the Insurance Commissioner a statement showing reserve value of all policies or contracts of insurance in force on the 31st day of December preceding on lives of persons residing within this State and within three months of filing of such statement.

Massachusetts.

The following references to insurance were made by Governor Curtis Guild, Jr., in his inaugural address on Wednesday:

The revelations as to the practices of the great life insurance companies of New York have roused the country to just indignation. Certain fraternal orders have met in convention to suggest reforms; the insurance commissioners of the various States have met, and are again to meet; committees of policyholders of the great New York companies have organized, and are later to report their findings. We have also the suggested remedy of national regulation.

Our own Massachusetts life insurance companies, organized under our own laws, contain no instance of subsidiary trust companies organized for stock speculation, nor are they burdened with the scandalous salary lists of the New York companies.

It is decidedly uncertain whether Congress has the constitutional right to make insurance law for the country. If the Supreme Court should rule that Congress has that right, Massachusetts would still have the power to add to the general law any safeguards, not inconsistent with a national statute, that we deem necessary to impose on companies doing business in this commonwealth for the protection of Massachusetts policyholders.

Not one hint of graft, or even of political interference, is directed, in this general storm of criticism, against the Insurance Department of this commonwealth. It is the admitted standard for efficiency in the country. Our Massachusetts insurance laws, moreover, have been copied in part by many States, and by some States almost in their entirety. At such a crisis, with patent wrong crying for redress, a commonwealth with such a record cannot relinquish leadership. We shall advance farthest if we advance only on safe ground and with expert guides.

Our first duty is to recodify our own laws, last completely recodified in 1887. Since then some laws have been changed in application, others have become obsolete, some have been added. On this basis we should raise new legislation, framed after due and sober consideration of such recommendations as may be made not only to this honorable body, but in the broadest sense wherever presented, in order that our new Massachusetts insurance code may be remedial, progressive, and, as far as consistent with Massachusetts ideals, uniform with the new codes of other States.

In a question of grave importance, demanding technical knowledge of a high order, Governor and General Court alike can, I think, best serve the public ends by calling in the best impartial expert advice obtainable. I therefore recommend that the Governor, with the consent of the Council, be authorized at once to appoint a temporary and advisory board, who shall revise and codify our insurance laws, confer with the authorities of other States, correspond freely with all bodies seeking insurance reform, consider and originate measures and suggestions, and report such information, with their findings from time to time, to the present General Court as an aid to its deliberations and final action. The service of such an advisory board would, of course, terminate with its final report. The existence of a surplus above the cost of maintenance accruing from the fees collected by the Insurance Department makes no extra expenditure for this purpose necessary.

Mississippi.

A resolution has been introduced by Mr. Sample in the House to define and punish as contempt a certain kind of lobbying. The preamble mentions the testimony of Andrew Hamilton as to influencing members of legislatures and the daily press.

New York.

Governor Higgins treated the life insurance situation in the following terms in his message to the Legislature:

The magnitude and extent of the business of life insurance is startling, even after a year of discussion and agitation. At the end of December, 1904, forty-two companies doing business in the State of New York had total gross assets of $2,454,669,436.63. For the year ended December 31, 1904, these companies had received in premiums $489,542,922.04, and they had a total income from all sources of $580,743,959.14. The disbursements for commissions to agents on this business amounted to $67,086,887.97; the salaries, medical fees and payments to employees were $36,537,255.98, and other disbursements were $33,395,686.55. The total number of policies in force December 31, 1904, of the forty-two companies named, was 9,949,722, insuring $10,028,090,981. The business may be roughly divided in halves between three great companies existing under the laws of New York on the one side and the remaining companies on the other.

The problem of State regulation of insurance has become one of overshadowing importance. It calls for calm, courageous, and intelligent treatment. We must aim to cure, not to kill; to preserve, not to tear down. Great companies have in the past ten years been heaping up riches almost beyond the dreams of avarice. They deal with amounts rivaling in magnitude the cost and indebtedness of national governments. The average policyholder has rested content in a belief in their financial soundness and in the integrity of their managers. Self denial, prudence, foresight, and a desire to protect the family and to provide for old age have given a ready ear to the eager and persistent solicitations of lavishly paid agents, until the hopes and fears of our people find general expression in their life insurance investments.

This enormous business has been done under laws most generous to the companies. While the State permits none to transact the business of life insurance within its borders without an official certificate of authorization and provides for the examination of the officers and agents of such companies under oath with reference to their business, such examinations are conducted with a view to ascertaining solvency, and not for the purpose of otherwise interfering with the discretion of the directors in making investments, paying salaries, distributing surpluses, and other matters involving the internal management of a solvent company. It is to the credit of the State that no insurance company has failed in recent years.

State supervision, not State regulation, has been authorized by law, yet inconsistently enough Section 56 of the insurance law guards the companies from any but State action which

shall interfere in any way with the prosecution of the business of such companies through the equitable remedies of accounting or injunction.

The courts have been no less liberal than the Legislature. They have decided that the holder of a policy, even in a mutual company, is in no sense a partner of the corporation which issued the policy; that the relation between the policyholder and the company is one of contract, measured by the terms of the policy; that upon the payment of premiums the money immediately becomes the property of the company and no title thereto remains in any of the policyholders; that no trust relation exists between company and policyholders, and that no distribution of the surplus can be compelled by a policyholder, except where wrongdoing or mistake is affirmatively alleged and proved.

The officers and managers of life insurance companies have been permitted, without let or hindrance, to fix the terms of the contract and to determine how much of the surplus should be distributed to policyholders, and when, and how much retained by the company. Funds have continued to grow until their control for speculative purposes and various subsidiary enterprises has been enough to make vast fortunes for their custodians and until princely salaries have become trifling compared with the magnificent total of assets. The bitter struggle for the control of the Equitable last winter brought scandal and discredit upon great managers of the insurance business, and aroused the public from confidence and indifference to the keenest interest in the subject. The policyholder now demands something better from the State than a guarantee of solvency. He has learned that his insurance will be cheaper and safer when the companies are compelled to invest their assets for his benefit exclusively, and are prevented from diverting funds to the individual undertakings of speculative directors and to the payment of vast salaries and exorbitant commissions, gratuities to men of influence and contributions for political campaign purposes. He invokes the power of the State to shield him more effectively and to curb the companies and their directors.

It is improper for me at this time to anticipate the report of your committee which has conducted its trying duties with ability, courage and success, nor shall I seek to outline a new insurance law. Legislative action prior to the presentation of the report would be injudicious and premature.

You will be called upon to make a radical revision of the law for the benefit of investors in life insurance and for the regulation and restraint of the companies. We may well consider at this time the expediency of providing for more thorough regulation by the Department of Insurance. Under the new insurance law of Germany not only are thorough investigation and publicity insured, but the Government director actually enters into the business methods of the corporation. The law requires that the funds of the company be invested only in certain prescribed securities, all of which are devoid of speculative character, such as attaches to corporate stocks of every description; limits the commissions of agents and regulates with much detail the management of the companies. We can learn much from a careful examination of this law, although some of its provisions may be deemed too paternal for our differing conditions of business and political life or objectionable as leaving too much to the discretion of the Insurance Department.

The funds of insurance companies should sacredly be safeguarded for the policyholders by the State and every element of personal gain eliminated from their management. To accomplish this result it has been suggested that large amounts ought, for the safety of the insured, as well as for the good of the community, to be invested in bonds secured by mortgages on real estate at a conservative valuation; that deposits with or loans to moneyed corporations should be subject to suitable restrictions; that the control of subsidiary companies should not be permitted; that insurance directors should have no conflicting business connections; that investments in corporate bonds should be regulated so as to prevent speculation and loss from an attempt to float doubtful enterprises; that policies should be of standard forms so that the abuses arising from ambiguity, complexity, and incompleteness of the contract may be eradicated and the contract made definite in form and substance; that a uniform system of audits and accounts should be prescribed by the Insurance Department; that full publicity to policyholders should be assured; that deferred dividend policies should be prohibited or greatly restricted; that policies should be further safeguarded from forfeiture; that an equitable distribution of the gains of the company to the policyholders entitled thereto should be required; that policyholders should have an effective voice in the government of the companies, and that the discretion of the directors should be subject to judicial or administrative review.

The eyes of the whole world are now turned toward New York, and if this Legislature does not produce an insurance law which shall be drastic but practicable, radical but sane, in a spirit which shall be courageous but not hysterical, it will fail to meet the expectations of those who have confidence in the ability of popular government to solve its own problems as they arise.

Future effective action by Congress or the Federal Government is not probable, and the possibility of such action should not retard for an instant the work of the State.

While life insurance has received almost exclusive attention, it cannot be assumed that other corporations dealing in indemnity and investment contracts have been blameless, and a word of caution may not be amiss regarding assessment associations, accident insurance companies, co-operative fire insurance companies, and the like. Better allow free and unregulated insurance than permit such concerns to exist under laws which do not protect our citizens, but enable the promoter of doubtful schemes to beguile the investor to financial disappointment and fatten himself on false promises and deluded hopes.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 3.—Senator Marks has introduced a bill providing that no money shall be paid to persons engaged in opposing legislation for life insurance, railroad, gas, electric light or power, telephone, banking, public service or transportation corporation or trust company unless a separate record is kept by said corporations and a report of such payments made annually to the Secretary of State.

Senator Brackett has introduced the following insurance bills:

Repealing Section 56 of insurance law relative to actions brought by the Attorney General.

Reorganizing the Insurance Department by providing for the election by the people at the general election in 1906 of a superintendent of insurance, to serve five years, at $7,000 annually. The bill makes stringent provisions regarding the management of insurance corporations based upon the revelations made by the investigating committee. It abolishes deferred dividends and requires annual dividends.

Prohibiting fire insurance corporations combining with other similar corporations to fix rates whereby competition is restrained.

Also a bill prohibiting the insurance of the lives of minors under thirteen years of age.

Senator Brackett also had another bill which made it a misdemeanor for any person to avoid accepting the service of a subpœna or other legal process.

Miscellany.

OFFICIAL CHANGES IN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN 1905.

Adams & Boyle Fire of Little Rock (new)—John P. Boyle elected president; S. P. Adams, vice president; John T. Boyle, Jr., secretary.

Alliance Fire of Austin, Minn. (new)—J. D. Sheely elected president; N. F. Danfil, vice president; C. F. Cook, secretary; A. W. Wright, treasurer.

American Fire of Philadelphia—Clarence E. Porter elected president, to succeed John H. Packard, Jr.; William D. Williams, vice president and secretary; Edward Maneuvre, assistant secretary.

American Mutual Merchants of Oklahoma City, Okla. (new)—C. G. Jones, president; William Bushby, first vice president; C. C. Hughes, second vice president; E. T. Hathaway, secretary; C. F. Colcord, treasurer.

Armenia of Pittsburgh, Pa.—Robert Dixson elected president; P. V. Rovianek, vice president; Robert H. Marshall, secretary and treasurer.

Atlantic Mutual of New York (marine)—Cornelius Eldert elected first vice president, succeeding Frederic A. Parsons, resigned; Theodore P. Johnson, second vice president.

Austin Fire of Austin, Tex.—Walter Tips elected first vice president, succeeding J. M. Colton, retired.

Birmingham of Pittsburgh—Charles Melling elected president; William Ruski, vice president; Henry Wachter, assistant secretary.

Boston Insurance Company—William R. Hedge elected vice president, succeeding William Wallace, resigned.

California of San Francisco—M. A. Newell elected president; A. D. Cutler, vice president; E. W. McCarthy, treasurer; George W. Brooks, secretary.

Calumet Fire of Chicago (new)—Marvin A. Farr elected president; Charles B. Gilbert, vice president; Alonzo W. Haight, secretary.

Capital Fire of Concord, N. H.—Charles L. Jackman elected vice president, succeeding Henry McFarland, resigned; Rufus N. Elwell, secretary.

Capital Fire of Des Moines, Ia.—Charles S. Berry elected vice president.

City of New York (new)—Max Danziger elected president; Major A. White, secretary; J. C. French, assistant secretary; William H. Young, vice president. Major A. White afterward elected president.

Continental Fire of Little Rock, Ark. (new)—J. T. W. Tillar elected president; J. T. Beal, vice president; Herman Kahn, treasurer.

Delaware of Philadelphia—J. Parsons Smith, Jr., elected secretary, succeeding Henry Lylburn, retired.

Eagle Fire of New York—Theodore H. Price elected president; M. E. Ingalls, Jr., vice president; William G. Whilden, secretary and general manager; S. F. Walstrum, assistant secretary.

Equitable Fire and Marine of Providence—James E. Tillinghast elected vice president; Samuel G. Howe, secretary, succeeding the latter; F. W. Arnold, Jr., assistant secretary.

Fidelity Fire of Des Moines—A. A. Clark appointed secretary, succeeding A. L. Fullis, retired.

Franklin of Wheeling, W. Va.—Albert Paull elected secretary.

General Fire, Richmond, Va. (new)—Eli Smith, president; E. A. Hynds, vice president; M. Freeman, secretary.

German Home Fire of Denver, Col. (new)—H. T. Lamey elected president; T. H. Rhoades, secretary.

Hamilton Fire of New York—Marvin S. Buttles elected president, succeeding D. D. Whitney, retired; James A. Silvey, vice president.

Hawkeye Fire of Des Moines—George M. Hippee elected president, succeeding James H. Callanan, deceased.

Home Fire of Fordyce, Ark. (new)—A. B. Banks elected president; A. J. Wilson, vice president; John R. Hampton, secretary and treasurer.

Houston Fire and Marine—R. S. Yocum elected president, succeeding W. J. Swain; R. W. Knox, vice president; J. E. Morris, secretary.

Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania—George R. Packard elected vice president, succeeding John F. Lewis, resigned.

Jefferson Fire of Philadelphia—Robert Dickson elected president; General Manager Sydney Hutchinson, vice president; R. D. Tweedale, secretary.

Mercantile Fire of Little Rock, Ark. (new)—H. L. Remmel elected president; J. S. Pollock, vice president; Charles McKee, secretary; Max Heiman, treasurer.

Merchants of Bangor Me.—William B. Snow elected president, succeeding Hon. Edward B. Nealley, deceased.

Milwaukee German Fire (new)—Edward Schroeder elected president and general manager; Edward A. Uhrig, vice president; Walter Schroeder, secretary.

National of Norfolk, Va.—A. H. Martin elected president; E. C. Fosburg, vice president.

National Fire of Little Rock, Ark. (new)—E. G. Thompson elected president; W. B. Plunkett, vice president; L. B. Leigh, secretary; S. W. Reyburn, treasurer.

National Mutual Fire of Omaha (new)—Edward M. Coffin elected president; J. L. Mabie, secretary.

New Hampshire Fire—Frank W. Sargeant elected president, to succeed E. U. Crosby; Walter M. Parker, vice president; N. P. Hunt, treasurer; Frank E. Martin and Lewis W. Crochett, secretaries; Wm. B. Burpee and Chas. C. Clifford, assistant secretaries.

New Jersey State Fire of Newark, (new)—G. P. Dieffenbach elected president; Herman Schneider, vice president; J. A. McKenna, treasurer; Mr. Isenburg, secretary.

Niagara Fire of New York—W. L. Tillotson elected assistant secretary, succeeding Harry F. G. Wey.

North River of New York—John A. Forster elected second vice president.

Olympia Fire and Marine of Fort Smith, Ark. (new)—James B. Moore elected president; F. S. Stevenson, vice president; L. W. Lowrey, secretary.

People's Fire of Norfolk, Va. (new)—T. F. Rogers elected president; R. A. Wainright, vice president; E. P. Crochett, secretary.

Providence-Washington—Arthur G. Beals elected secretary.

Real Estate Owners' Fire of New York (new)—H. A. C. Anderson elected president; P. B. Armstrong, vice president; William C. Pratt, secretary.

Rochester German—Eugene Satterlee elected president.

Royal Exchange—Uberto C. Crosby appointed United States manager; R. D. Harvey, assistant United States manager.

Seaboard Fire and Marine of Galveston, Tex. (new)—B. Adone elected president; H. Wilkens, vice president; John Sealy, treasurer; J. H. Langbehn, secretary.

Security of New Haven—Victor Roth elected assistant secretary, succeeding T. M. Lloyd.

Southern of New Orleans—Robert Dickson elected president; C. W. Robinson, vice president.

Southern Fire of Lynchburg, Va.—J. Gordon Payne elected president; M. H. Dingle, vice president; E. P. Miller, treasurer; Holmes Cummings, secretary.

Southern National Fire of Dallas, Tex.—A. L. Pollard elected president; J. G. Hornberger, vice president and assistant general manager; B. A. Killough, secretary.

Union of Philadelphia—Louis S. Amonson elected vice president.

United States Fire—Charles T. Rolfe elected assistant secretary, succeeding Abram Coddington.

Virginia Home of Richmond, Va.—George M. Stone elected president; James T. Wogan, vice president; James L. Hetherington, secretary.

Wabash Fire of Hammond, Ind. (new)—Fred S. Gray elected president; Herman A. Perz, vice president; Chester N. Phillips, secretary; E. M. Moriarty, assistant secretary.

Winona Fire of Winona, Minn.—Fred C. Van Dusen elected president, succeeding E. D. Dwyer, deceased; R. E. Tearse, vice president.

JOINT STOCK FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORGANIZED OR PROJECTED IN 1905.

Name.	Cash Capital.	Cash Surplus.	Proposed Capital.
Adams & Boyle, Little Rock, Ark	$50,000	.....	.....
Alliance Fire, Austin, Minn	100,000	.....	.....
Arkansas Fire, Memphis, Tenn	.....	.....	$200,000
Atlantic and Gulf, Atlanta, Ga	.....	.....	1,000,000
Atlantic Fire, Raleigh, N. C	.....	.....	125,000
Atlas, Des Moines, Ia	28,460	.....	100,000
Bankers and Underwriters Fire and Marine, Houston, Tex	.....	.....	.....
Bankers Fire, Cleveland, Ohio	.....	.....	100,000
California, San Francisco	250,000	$150,000	.....
Calumet Fire, Chicago	200,000	300,000	.....
Citizens Fire, Clarksville, Ark	50,000	.....	.....
City of New York, N. Y	200,000	300,000	.....
Colorado Fire, Denver	.....	.....	.....
Columbus Fire and Marine, Chicago	.....	.....	100,000
Commonwealth Fire, Ottumwa, Ia	25,000	10,000	100,000
Continental Fire, Little Rock, Ark	50,000	.....	.....
Fame, Philadelphia, Pa.*	100,000	.....	.....
First National, Dover, Del	.....	.....	100,000
Freeholders Fire, Topeka, Kan	110,000	.....	.....
General Fire Assurance Corporation, Richmond, Va	.....	.....	50,000
Greensboro Fire, Greensboro, N. C	.....	.....	100,000
Home, Denver, Col	.....	.....	200,000
Home Fire, Fordyce, Ark	50,000	.....	.....
Homestead Fire, Franklin, Va	.....	.....	100,000
Hudson County Fire, Jersey City, N. J	.....	.....	100,000
Imperial Fire, Denver, Col	.....	.....	200,000
Manufacturers Indemnity, Seattle, Wash	70,000	.....	200,000
Mercantile, Little Rock, Ark	50,000	.....	.....
Metropolitan Fire, Chicago	200,000	.....	.....
Milwaukee German Fire, Milwaukee, Wis	50,000	.....	.....
National Brewers, Chicago	.....	.....	150,000
National Fire, Little Rock, Ark	50,000	.....	.....
National Lumber, Buffalo, N. Y	200,000	.....	.....
National, Norfolk, Va	.....	.....	50,000
New Jersey State Fire, Newark, N. J	100,000	25,000	.....
North Carolina Fire, High Point, N. C	.....	.....	100,000
Olympic Fire and Marine, Fort Smith, Ark.	.....	.....	50,000
People's Fire, Little Rock, Ark	50,000	.....	.....
People's Fire, Norfolk, Va	.....	.....	500,000
People's Fire, Richmond, Va	.....	.....	200,000
Pioneer Fire, Seattle, Wash	.....	.....	500,000
Provident Fire, Montclair, N. J	.....	.....	200,000
Queen City Fire, Sioux City, S. Dak	200,000	20,000	.....
Real Estate Owners Fire, New York	.....	.....	300,000
Republic Fire, Norfolk, Va	.....	.....	50,000
Rhode Island Fire, Providence	.....	.....	500,000
Seaboard Fire and Marine, Galveston, Tex	.....	.....	300,000
Security Fire, Little Rock, Ark	50,000	.....	.....
Southern Fire, Lynchburg, Va	.....	.....	.....
Southern, Little Rock, Ark	50,000	.....	.....
Southern National, Dallas, Tex	.....	.....	200,000
Southern Underwriters, Greensboro, N. C.**	100,000	.....	.....
Standard Fire, Hartford, Conn	.....	.....	200,000
St. Louis Fire, St. Louis, Mo	.....	.....	100,000
T. & C. Fire, Dallas, Tex	100,000	.....	.....
Tidewater Insurance and Trust, Matthews C. H., Va	10,000	.....	.....
Travelers, Pine Bluff, Ark	103,650	.....	.....
Troy Fire, Troy, N. Y	.....	.....	500,000
Underwriters Fire, Rocky Mount, N. C	.....	.....	50,000
United American Fire, Milwaukee, Wis	.....	.....	100,000
Universal Fire, Memphis, Tenn	.....	.....	100,000
Wabash Fire, Hammond, Ind	.....	.....	.....
Washington Fire, Seattle, Wash	50,000	.....	100,000
Virginia Home, Richmond, Va	.....	.....	100,000

* Reorganized and re-entered business after a lapse of years.

** Changed from mutual.

The Anchor Fire of Cincinnati changed its name to the Ohio German Fire, and transferred its office to Toledo, Ohio.

MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES WHICH WERE INCORPORATED OR PROJECTED IN 1905.

Alabama Mutual Benefit, Birmingham, Ala.; capital, $50,000.
American Mutual Merchants, Oklahoma City, Okla. Ter.
Arkansas Mutual Fire, Little Rock, Ark.
Beaver Dam City Mutual Fire, Beaver Dam, Wis.
Capital Mutual Fire, Little Rock, Ark.
Cincinnati Mutual Fire, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Columbus City Mutual Fire, Columbus, Wis.
Consolidated Mutual Fire, Harrisburg, Pa.
Cotton Seed Crushers Mutual Fire, Philadelphia, Pa.
Cotton States Mutual, Thomasville, Ga.
Diamond Mutual Fire, York, Pa.
Dixie Mutual Fire, Helena, Ark.
Fulton County Mutual Fire, Neadmore, Pa.
Gallatin Mutual Hail and Fire, Bozeman, Mont.
German Mutual Dwelling House Fire, Minneapolis, Minn.
Grocers Cash Deposit Mutual Fire, Huntingdon, Pa.
Home Fire, Denver, Col.
Home Mutual Fire, Little Rock, Ark.
Homestead Mutual Fire, Portland, Me.
Interstate Mutual Fire, Augusta, Ga.
Mechanics Mutual Fire, Hartford, Conn.
Mifflin County Mutual Fire, Lewiston, Pa.
Nebraska Lumbermen's Mutual, Lincoln, Neb.
North American Mutual Fire, Mansfield, Ohio.
North Nebraska Mutual Tornado, Norfolk, Neb.
North Star Mutual Dwelling House Fire, Minneapolis, Minn.
People's Mutual Fire, Little Rock, Ark.
Philadelphia Mutual Fire, Philadelphia, Pa.
Provident Mutual Fire, Philadelphia, Pa.
Queen of Arkansas Mutual, Little Rock, Ark.
Railway Mutual Indemnity, Philadelphia, Pa.
Retail Merchants Mutual Fire, Little Rock, Ark.
Somerset Mutual Fire, Somerset, Pa.
Sunlight, Atlanta, Ga.
Transportation Mutual, Philadelphia, Pa.

Five mutuals were organized in Oklahoma in 1905, two at Oklahoma City, two at Lawton and one at Cheyenne.

JOINT STOCK FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANIES WHICH CEASED TO DO BUSINESS IN 1905.

Names.	Paid Up Capital.	Reinsured by.
Continental, Chicago	$100,000	National, Allegheny, Pa.
Illinois Central, Chicago	Nominal.	Wound up.
International, West Virginia	Nominal.	Failed.
Jefferson Fire and Marine, Richmond, Va.	Nominal.	Failed.
Philadelphia Fire, Philadelphia	$200,000	Failed.
Powhatan Fire, Manchester, Va	Nominal.	Failed.
Richmond Fire, Richmond, Va	Nominal.	Failed.

MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES WHICH CEASED TO DO BUSINESS IN 1905.

Equitable Mutual Fire, St. Paul, Minn.
German American Fire, Hastings, Neb.
Georgia Industrial, Atlanta, Ga.
Lafayette Mutual Fire, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Mercantile Mutual Fire, St. Paul, Minn.
North American Mutual Fire, Pittsburgh, Pa.
State Mutual Fire, St. Paul, Minn.
United States Mutual Fire, Philadelphia, Pa.
Western Fire, Seattle, Wash.

The Alliance Hail and Cyclone Mutual of Austin, Minn., was reinsured in the Alliance Fire of Austin.

INCREASE OR DECREASE OF CASH CAPITAL BY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN 1905.

Companies.	Increase From.	Increase To.	Decrease From.	Decrease To.
Armenia, Pittsburgh	.....	.....	$250,000	$200,000
Consolidated F. and M., Albert Lea, Minn.	$100,000	$200,000	.....	.....
Delaware, Dover, Del	100,000	200,000	.....	.....
Dubuque F. and M., Dubuque, Ia	100,000	200,000	.....	.....
German, Wheeling	100,000	200,000	.....	.....
Hamilton Fire, N. Y	150,000	200,000	.....	.....
Insurance Company of State of Pennsylvania	200,000	400,000	.....	.....
Jefferson Fire, Philadelphia	100,000	*200,000	.....	.....
Metropolitan Fire, Chicago	100,000	200,000	.....	.....
Mississippi Home, Vicksburg, Miss	10,000	100,000	.....	.....
New Brunswick Fire, New Brunswick, N. J	100,000	200,000	.....	.....
Security, New Haven	400,000	500,000	.....	.....
Teutonia, Allegheny, Pa	100,000	200,000	.....	.....

* Surplus also increased to $300,000.

The Southern Underwriters of Greensboro, N. C., a mutual, amended its charter and provided for $100,000 paid up capital.

SURETY AND CASUALTY COMPANIES.

Increase of capital in 1905—Metropolitan Surety of New York, $250,000 to $500,000; New Jersey Plate Glass of Newark, $100,000 to $200,000; Philadelphia Casualty (proposed), $300,000 to $500,000; Pennsylvania Casualty of Scranton, $200,000 to $500,000; United States Casualty of New York, $300,000 to $400,000.

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORGANIZED OR PROJECTED IN 1905.

Companies.	Actual or Proposed Capital.
Acme Life, Chicago, Ill	$100,000
American Birth, Boston, Mass	.....
Actuaries Life, Chicago, Ill	100,000
American Life, Tampa, Fla	500,000
American Mutual Life, Chicago, Ill	500,000
America Mutual Life, Oklahoma City, Okla	100,000
American National Life, Galveston, Tex	120,000
American National Life, Lynchburg, Va	500,000
Atlanta-Birmingham Life, Atlanta, Ga	1,000,000
Atlanta Industrial Life, Atlanta	100,000
Beneficial Life, Salt Lake City, Utah	100,000
Buffalo Life, Buffalo, N. Y	250,000
Capitol Life, Denver Col	250,000
Carolina Life, High Point, N. C	100,000
Carolina Mutual Life, Columbia, S. C	5,000
Cedar Rapids Life, Cedar Rapids, Ia	100,000
Central Union Life, Indianapolis, Ind	Mutual
Charlotte Life, Charlotte, N. C	50,000
Colorado National Life, Denver, Col	250,000
Columbia Life, New York	Mutual
Commonwealth Life, Louisville, Ky	200,000
Conservative Mutual Life, Charlotte, N. C	100,000
De Soto Life, Memphis, Tenn	200,000
Detroit Life and Liability, Detroit, Mich	Mutual
Equitable Endowment, Omaha, Neb	Stipulated premium
Erie Life, Columbus, Ohio	Mutual
Great Western Life, Indianapolis, Ind	Mutual
Greensboro Life, Greensboro, N. C	100,000
Guarantee Life, Houston, Tex	100,000
Guardian Life, Philadelphia, Pa	100,000
Guardian Life, Seattle, Wash	100,000
Indianapolis Life, Indianapolis, Ind	Mutual
Intermediate Life, Evansville, Ind	Mutual
International Life, Washington, D. C	30,000
Jefferson National Life, Indianapolis, Ind	Mutual
Keystone Life, New Orleans, La	300,000
La Fayette Life, La Fayette, Ind	Mutual
Lamar Mutual Life, Jackson, Miss	50,000
Liberty Life, New York	Mutual
Life Insurance Club of New York	100,000
Life Insurance Company of Indiana	Mutual
Lincoln Life, Newark, N. J	100,000
Lincoln National Life, Fort Wayne, Ind	200,000
Majestic Life, Indianapolis, Ind	Mutual
Midland Mutual Life, Columbus, Ohio	100,000
Modern Mutual Life, Columbus, Ohio	Mutual
North American Annuity, Norfolk, Va	100,000
Ohio State Life, Columbus, Ohio	Mutual
Oregon Life, Portland, Ore	100,000
People's Life and Accident, Louisville, Ky	200,000
People's Life, New York	100,000
Prussian Life, Berlin, Germany	*200,000
Puget Sound Life, Seattle, Wash	Mutual
Reliable Life, Indianapolis, Ind	Mutual
Rhode Island Life, Providence, R. I	100,000
Single Premium Life, Peoria, Ill	.....
Southeastern Life, Spartanburg, S. C	100,000
Southern Life, Georgetown, S. C	10,000
Southern Life, Fayetteville, N. C	50,000
Southern Life, New Orleans	300,000
Southern Mutual Life, Little Rock, Ark	Mutual
Texas National Life, Fort Worth, Tex	250,000
Traders Union Life, New York	.....
United States Annuity and Life, Chicago	300,000
Virginia Life and Accident, Clifton Forge, Va	50,000
Western Mutual Life, Aberdeen, S. Dak	.....

* Admitted to New York in 1905; deposited $200,000 as above.

A merger of the Pacific Mutual Life of San Francisco and the Conservative Life of Los Angeles was effected in December, 1905, the combined companies to take the name of the Pacific-Conservative.

The Western Indemnity Life of Chicago; name changed from the Knights Templar and Masons Life Indemnity.

A large and important life insurance company is being organized by Dr. William A. Fricke.

ASSESSMENT LIFE AND CASUALTY COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATIONS ORGANIZED IN 1905.

Acme Life, Des Moines, Ia.
Alabama Mutual Benefit Life, Birmingham, Ala.
American Fraternal Life, Indianapolis, Ind.
American Mutual Benefit Life, Andalusia, Ala.
American Royal Circle, Augusta, Me. (fraternal).
Anchor Casualty, Neenah, Wis.
Anchor Life Endowment, Springfield, Ill.
Angelus Mutual, Moultrie, Ga.
Bankers Endowment, Chicago, Ill.
Central Life, Ottawa, Ill.
Central Union Life, Indianapolis, Ind.
Citizens Protective, Charlotte, Mich.
Colonial Insurance Union, Toledo, Ohio.
Colorado Mutual Indemnity, Denver (accident and health).
Cosmopolitan Mutual Casualty, St. Paul, Minn.
Daughters of Scotland, International Order of, Detroit, Mich. (fraternal).
Endowment Accident, Council Bluffs, Ia.
Endowment Health and Accident, Lincoln, Neb.
Federal Casualty, Manitowoc, Wis.
Fraternities Health and Accident, Richmond, Me.
German American Indemnity, Denver (accident and health).
Great Northern Life and Indemnity, Denver (accident and health).
Imperial Mutual Life and Health, Asheville, N. C.
Imperial Order of Tycoons, Syracuse, N. Y.
Inter Mountain Mutual Life, Billings, Mont.
Keystone Benefit, Minneapolis, Minn.
Los Angeles Life, Los Angeles.
Maccabee Protective, Port Huron, Mich.
Minnesota Commercial Men's Health, New Ulm, Minn.
Missouri Indemnity, St. Joseph, Mo. (fraternal).
Modern Mutual Life, Hastings, Neb.
Mutual Benefit, Scranton, Pa.
Mutual Life, Weatherford, Tex.
National Life and Indemnity, Denver, Col.
National Protective Life, Springfield, Ill.
National Union Life, Jacksonville, Fla.
North American Life, Minneapolis, Minn.
Pioneer Life, Davenport, Ia.
Philadelphia Mutual Life, Philadelphia, Pa.
Protective Benefit, Fort Worth, Tex.
Royal Union, Dallas, Tex.
Southern Mutual Indemnity, Charlotte, N. C. (fraternal).
Southern Mutual Life, Little Rock, Ark.
Toilers Mutual Life, Tarboro, N. C.
Union Link-Mutual Life and Indemnity, Four Oaks, N. C.
United Craftsmen, Cambridge, Md. (fraternal).
United Fraternal League, Lowry City, Mo. (fraternal).
United Sages of America, St. Louis, Mo. (fraternal).
United States Annuity, Spokane, Wash.
Western Mutual Life, Aberdeen, S. Dak.
Wisconsin Benefit, Marshfield, Wis. (fraternal).
Wisconsin Health and Accident, Fond du Lac, Wis.
Woodmen's Mutual Casualty, Minneapolis, Minn.

Several negro fraternals were organized in North Carolina, among them the Brothers and Sisters Union of Maxton and the Negro Christian Brotherhood of Grimesland.

CASUALTY, SURETY AND LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANIES ORGANIZED OR PROJECTED IN 1905.

Companies.	Actual or Proposed Capital.
Alabama Casualty, Birmingham, Ala	$5,000
American Reserve Bond, Chicago, Ill	.....
Anchor Casualty, Neenah, Wis	.....
Central Title, San Francisco	25,000
Chicago Independent Plate Glass and Casualty, Chicago, Ill	.....
Cosmopolitan Casualty, St. Paul, Minn	.....
Empire Casualty, Parkersburg, W. Va	150,000
Empire Trust, St. Joseph, Mo	.....
Equitable Fidelity and Title Guarantee, Bookings, S. Dak	20,700
Federal Casualty, Manitowoc, Wis	.....
Illinois Coal Operators Mutual Employers Liability of Chicago	.....
Illinois Surety, Chicago, Ill	250,000
Independent Plate Glass and Accident, Chicago, Ill	100,000
International Fidelity, Jersey City, N. J	100,000
Iowa Bonding, Davenport, Ia	100,000
Iron City Health and Accident, Pittsburgh, Pa	.....
Keystone Bonding, Philadelphia, Pa	500,000
Lawyers Title Guaranty, Newark, N. J	100,000
Lawyers Title, Stamford, Conn	50,000
Metropolitan Surety, New York	250,000
National Trust and Guarantee, Baltimore, Md	500,000
Phœnix Preferred Accident, Detroit, Mich	100,000
People's Surety, Brooklyn, N. Y	500,000
Royal Accident, Brooklyn, N. Y	25,000
Sun Accident, Oklahoma City, Okla. Ter	18,000
United Surety, Baltimore, Md	500,000
Wisconsin Mutual Plate Glass, Juneau, Wis	.....

LIFE, CASUALTY AND MISCELLANEOUS INSURANCE COMPANIES WHICH CEASED TO DO BUSINESS IN 1905.

Name.	Capital.	Reinsured by.
American Casualty, Buffalo, N. Y	Assessment.	National Casualty, Detroit.
American Mutual Aid, Detroit	Assessment.	American Health and Accident, Detroit.
City Trust Safe Deposit and Surety, Philadelphia	$500,000	*Failed.
Equitable Horse, New York	Assessment.	Retired.
Michigan Health and Accident, Owosso, Mich	Assessment.	National Casualty, Detroit.
Michigan Live Stock, Detroit, Mich.	Assessment.	Retired.
National Masonic, Des Moines, Ia.	Assessment.	North American Accident, Chicago.
People's Life and Accident, Louisville, Ky	Assessment.	Retired.
Preferred Accident, Detroit, Mich.	Assessment.	Phœnix Preferred Accident, Detroit.
Providence Life, Providence, R. I	$24,000	Failed.
Southern Mutual Aid, Birmingham, Ala	Assessment.	Retired.
Union Health and Casualty, Boston, Mass	Assessment.	Failed.
Union Protection, Boston, Mass.	Assessment.	Failed.

* Surety business outside of Pennsylvania was reinsured by the Empire State Surety.

OFFICIAL CHANGES IN LIFE, CASUALTY AND SURETY INSURANCE COMPANIES IN 1905.

Ætna Indemnity of Hartford—Arthur P. Heinze elected president, succeeding Beekman Hunt, now manager; John MacGinnis, vice president; Charles S. Brooks, secretary; Samuel B. Brewster, treasurer.

Ætna Life of Hartford—J. L. English elected vice president; Charles E. Gilbert, secretary; Morgan Bulkeley Brainard, assistant treasurer.

American Life of Tampa, Fla. (new)—W. B. Henderson elected president; H. L. Knight, first vice president; C. A. Carson, second vice president; H. C. Gordon, secretary; Frank Bentley, treasurer.

American Mutual Life of Chicago—George W. Caldwell elected president; Johnathan Merriah, vice president; T. K. Root and G. W. Weippiert, secretaries.

American National Life and Accident of Galveston, Tex. (new)—W. L. Moody, Jr., elected president; J. E. Quinn, secretary.

Bankers Surety Company—Charles Babcock elected first vice president, succeeding William P. Johnson, now treasurer.

Buffalo Life of Buffalo, N. Y. (new)—Charles H. Wood elected president; J. L. McNeil, Horace F. Taylor, Edwin R. Smith, vice presidents; C. E. Charnel, secretary.

Capitol Life of Denver, Col. (new)—Thomas F. Daly elected president; C. S. Morey, first vice president; Charles Boettcher, second vice president; Fred W. Bailey, secretary; Robert D. Sullivan, treasurer.

Casualty Company of America—Robert B. Armstrong elected president, succeeding Andrew H. Freedman, resigned.

Cedar Rapids Life (new)—Oscar Casey elected president; C. M. Atherton, vice president and general manager; Geo. M. Stearns, secretary and actuary; J. M. Dinwiddie, treasurer.

Central Union Life of Indianapolis (new)—A. J. Heliher elected president; W. R. Wanner and R. L. McQuat, vice presidents; S. D. Rennick, secretary; H. A. Taylor, treasurer.

Chicago Life—Howard H. Hoyt elected vice president.

Citizens Life of Louisville, Ky.—W. H. Gregory elected president, succeeding C. B. Norton.

Columbia Life of Cincinnati (new)—James A. Green elected first vice president, succeeding Frank J. Jones.

Columbian National Life of Boston—William H. Brown elected secretary, succeeding Frank J. Wills; F. W. Ganse, vice president, succeeding William Butler Woodbridge, deceased.

Commonwealth Life of Louisville, Ky. (new)—John D. Powers elected president; Matt O'Doherty, first vice president; John Droege, fourth vice president; Darwin W. Johnson, secretary and treasurer.

Connecticut General Life—Charles E. Bulkley elected secretary, succeeding James A. Turnbull, resigned.

Connecticut Mutual Life—John M. Taylor elected president, succeeding Jacob L. Greene, deceased; W. H. Whaples elected vice president.

Conservative Life of Los Angeles, Cal.—Wilbur S. Tupper elected president to succeed Frederick H. Rindge, deceased; Geo. I. Cochran elected vice president.

Conservative Mutual Life of Charlotte, N. C. (new)—T. S. Franklin elected president; J. N. McCausland, vice president; Charles Brenzier, secretary; A. E. McCausland, treasurer.

De Soto Life insurance company of Memphis, Tenn. (new)—S. B. Anderson elected president; C. K. Lewis, vice president; John R. Pepper, treasurer.

Empire Casualty Company of Parkersburg, W. Va. (new)—O. Havener elected president; John H. P. Smith, second vice president; Lee J. Fristol, secretary; E. L. Davidson, treasurer; David F. Connolly, first vice president; John B. Crawford, third vice president.

Empire State Surety of New York—W. M. Tomlins, Jr., elected president, succeeding John M. Jenkins, resigned; Daniel Steard, secretary.

Equitable Life Assurance Society—Paul Morton elected president, succeeding James W. Alexander, resigned.

Equitable Fidelity and Guarantee Company of Brookings, S. Dak. (new)—W. H. Roddle elected president; Theodore Meyer, first vice president; C. B. Collins, second vice president; H. H. Reeves, treasurer.

Guardian Life of Philadelphia (new)—E. L. Shelton elected vice president and general manager.

Greensboro Life of Greensboro, N. C. (new)—J. W. Fry elected president; E. Colwell, Jr., secretary and treasurer.

Illinois Surety Company—Isaac L. Ellwood elected president; A. J. Hopkins, vice president; Fred M. Blount, treasurer; W. Herbert Smith, secretary.

Indianapolis Life—Albert Goslee elected president; Frank P. Manly, vice president and manager; Joseph R. Raub, secretary.

Iowa Bonding Company of Davenport, Ia. (new)—A. L. Hageboeck elected president; J. E. Burmeister, vice president; Fred A. Crouch, secretary; J. H. Hass, treasurer.

John Hancock Mutual Life—William O. Blaney elected fourth vice president.

Lincoln Life of Jersey City (new)—A. G. Stenger elected president; C. E. Evers, vice president; F. M. Kolb, secretary and treasurer.

Lincoln National Life of Fort Wayne, Ind. (new)—Samuel L. Foster, elected president; S. J. Straus, vice president; W. B. Paul, second vice president; Arthur F. Paul, secretary.

Maryland Casualty Company—F. Highland Burns elected third vice president.

Massachusetts Mutual Life—W. W. McClench elected second vice president; W. H. Sargeant, secretary; George D. Lang, assistant secretary.

Metropolitan Surety Company of New York—John J. Caulett elected president; David McClure, first vice president; Andrew T. Sullivan, second vice president; Frank A. Condon, secretary.

Mutual Benefit Life—L. Gage Pratt and Edward L. Dobbins elected vice presidents; J. William Johnson, secretary; Samuel H. Baldwin, treasurer.

Mutual Life of Illinois—R. M. Wells elected vice president, succeeding G. W. Caldwell; Carl T. Prime, assistant secretary.

Mutual Life of New York—Charles A. Peabody elected president, succeeding Richard A. McCurdy, resigned; Emory McClintock elected vice president.

National Surety Company—James J. Healy elected assistant secretary.

New England Mutual Life—Daniel F. Appel elected secretary, succeeding T. F. Trull, deceased.

New York Life—Alexander E. Orr elected president, succeeding John A. McCall, resigned; Darwin P. Kingsley, ranking first vice president, was advanced to the position formerly occupied by George W. Perkins, resigned.

Northwestern National Life of Minneapolis—Leonard K. Thompson elected vice president and manager.

Pacific Mutual Life of San Francisco—Henry T. Scott elected president, succeeding George A. Moore; S. M. Marks, second vice president. The company subsequently merged with the Conservative Life of Los Angeles, becoming the Pacific-Conservative Life.

People's Life and Accident of Louisville, Ky. (new)—Edgar D. Martin elected president; R. H. Hundley, vice president; J. V. Reed, second vice president; W. A. Thompson, third vice president; S. E. Brannon, secretary and treasurer.

People's Surety Company of Brooklyn (new)—David A. Sullivan elected president; James N. Brown and Edward B. Tompkins, vice presidents; William J. Buttling, treasurer; John H. Sell, secretary.

Prudential—Wilbur S. Johnson elected fourth vice president; Henry Overgne, assistant secretary; George W. Munsick, assistant secretary.

Reliance Life of Pittsburgh—Grant Siverd elected secretary, succeeding L. C. Robens.

Security Life and Annuity of Philadelphia—John K. Tener elected president, succeeding E. D. Newman.

South Atlantic Life of Richmond, Ky.—Edmund Strudwick elected president, succeeding B. B. Munford, resigned; Tucker Carrington, treasurer.

Southern Life of Georgetown, S. C. (new)—J. S. Holleman elected president; J. H. Frazier, vice president; O. P. Bourke, secretary and treasurer.

Southern Mutual Life of Little Rock, Ark. (new)—J. Fleetwood Butt elected president; Nat Hoggatt, vice president and secretary; Edward M. Pemberton, treasurer.

United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company of Baltimore—Charles O. Scull elected fifth vice president.

United Surety Company of Baltimore—Olin Bryan elected president; H. G. Penniman, vice president; W. A. Mason, treasurer; Robert A. Dobbin, Jr., secretary.

Washington Life—Charles H. Allen elected vice president; Theodore T. Johnson, second vice president; J. W. B. Van De Water, secretary.

Western and Southern Life of Cincinnati—John R. Bruce elected first vice president.

DEATH ROLL OF 1905.

Alsop, Thomas I., former sub-manager of the Liverpool and London and Globe, died January 11, near Liverpool, England.

Altaffer, Samuel L., agent, died from heart disease April 27, aged 67 years.

Armstrong, Dr. William C., medical examiner for several life insurance companies, died at Wayne, Pa., December 20, aged 48 years.

Arnal, Charles S., underwriter, died by suicide at Atlanta, Ga., February 23.

Arnold, James B., accident insurance agent at Binghamton, N. Y., and manager of the Eastern railroad department of the Ætna Life, died in New York city December 17, aged 67 years.

Atkinson, Edward, president of the Boston Manufacturers' Fire, died December 11, at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, from acute indigestion, aged 78 years.

Atwood, John H., formerly secretary of the Insurance Company of North America, Philadelphia, died June 15 at Atlantic City, N. J., aged 81 years.

Baden, W. C., agent at Pottstown, Pa., died from asphyxiation at Royersford, Pa., October 31.

Baldwin, Loammi H., late Baltimore manager of the Washington Life at Baltimore, Md., died November 16.

Ballantine, Robert F., vice president of the Mutual Benefit Life of Newark, died at Madison, N. J., December 10, aged 69 years.

Ballinger, James M., agent at Paris, Tex., died August 3.

Barber, C. J., former president of the Home Fire of Omaha, died from heart failure November 16.

Barker, Joshua, agent at Amsterdam, N. Y., died there July 8, from effects of amputation of his leg, aged 59 years.

Barker, James M., vice president of the Berkshire Life, died from heart disease at Boston, October 2, aged 66 years.

Barton, Charles D., former general agent of the Greenwich of New York, died at Elizabeth, N. J., March 13, from Bright's disease, aged 45 years.

Bartram, Ashbel E., agent at Bridgeport, Conn., died there February 21, aged 62 years.

Belloni, Marius G., forty years one of the office staff of the New York Life, died at Glen Ridge, N. J., from pneumonia, aged 58 years.

Benson, Andrew M., life insurance agent at Boston, Mass., died there March 19.

Blackmore, George F., superintendent of agencies for the Metropolitan Life in the Lake Shore District, Ohio, died at Sparta, N. J., from a hunting accident November 28, aged 31 years.

Bliss, Robert, one of the original directors of the Equitable Life, died in New York city, September 11.

Bonsall, William H., formerly of the *Spectator*, died at Los Angeles, Cal., August 12.

Boucher, Pierre L., fire insurance adjuster, New York city, died April 8 from acute bronchitis, aged 59 years.

Boush, John T., special agent of the Travelers of Hartford in the liability department, died from Bright's disease March 24.

Bowden, Thomas A., for twenty-seven years superintendent of rates of the Chicago Underwriters' Association, died there from uremic poisoning, February 12.

Boyd, F. C., assistant general agent of the Hamburg-Bremen at Spokane, Wash., died by suicide July 8.

Braddock, Charles S., agent at New London, Conn., died there from heart disease August 23, aged 69 years.

Brandt, F. G., agent at Dubuque, Ia., died there March 31, aged 73 years.

Brinckerhoff, Walter, agent at Jersey City, died there July 3, aged 67 years.

Brizendine, R. D., agent at Atlanta, Ga., died there from heart disease June 8, aged 55 years.

Brower, Edwin, auditor of the Phœnix of Hartford, Conn., died there from cancer March 27, aged 48 years.

Buchman, Mathias, agent at Cincinnati, Ohio, died February 17.

Calkins, Hiram, for many years Albany correspondent of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, died in New York from Bright's disease January 9, aged 74 years.

Carlton, Henry H., president of the Athens, Ga., Mutual Fire, died there October 26, aged 70 years.

Catanach, James S., special agent of the Hartford Fire in the Middle Department, died at Philadelphia, June 3, aged 65 years.

Catlin, William G., special agent of the Royal Exchange for Virginia, Alabama and the Carolinas, drowned near Georgetown, S. C., February 2, aged 28 years.

Chamberlin, Edgar G., assistant manager of the Western department of the Hartford Steam Boiler, died at Chicago, Ill., September 1,

Chandler, George B., treasurer of the New Hampshire Fire, died at Manchester, N. H., June 29, aged 72 years.

Cheney, E. R., agent at Anderson, Ind., died there September 18, aged 60 years.

Cheney, William H., secretary of the Home of New York, died from heart failure at East Orange, N. J., December 5, aged 55 years.

Clark, Edward B., former assistant manager of the Phœnix of London at New York, died at Plainfield, N. J., from paralysis and kidney disease September 21.

Coddington, Charles, general agent of the New York Life at Detroit, Mich., died at Fremont, Ohio, April 6.

Conklin, H. W., senior member of H. W. Conklin & Co., agents, of Hartford, Conn., died there from septicæmia, June 29, aged 70 years.

Cook, Frederick, president of the Rochester German, died at Rochester, N. Y., February 17.

Cooper, George C., special agent of the Fireman's Fund for Michigan, died at Lansing from paralysis July 8, aged 66 years.

Covington, James W., former special agent of the National Board in the Southern States, and general agent for the Hartford Fire in Texas, died from paralysis at Yoakum, Tex., May 23, aged 73 years.

Craine, Oscar A., former secretary of the Security Trust and Life, died at Altoona, Pa., from consumption, May 13, aged 37 years.

Cratsenberg, Alva A., State agent of the German American at St. Paul, Minn., died there from nephritis May 22, aged 53 years.

Critchfield, R. M., former agent of Dayton, Ohio, died there December 29, 1904, aged 69 years.

Crockett, H. H., manager for the New York Life at Nashville, Tenn., died there from apoplexy March 1, aged 53 years.

Cross, Isaac, Jr., former president of the defunct State Mutual Fire of Hartford, Conn., died there from diabetes May 9, aged 66 years.

Crowell, Henry M., special agent of the Mutual Life of New York for New Jersey, died from erysipelas at Newark, December 29, aged 49 years.

Croxton, William, former agent at Louisville, Ky., died there from locomotor ataxia December 19, aged 46 years.

Dalrymple, James Curley, agent at Baltimore, Md., died there September 26.

Danner, Frank W., former State agent of the Equitable Life at Richmond, Va., died there from paralysis January 7, aged 35 years.

Danziger, Max., president of the New York Plate Glass insurance company and the City of New York Fire insurance company, died at Heidelberg, Germany, from blood poisoning, October 28.

Dean, John W., special agent of the Missouri State Life, died at Kansas City, Mo., December 11, aged 71 years.

Deevey, Charles, ex-president of the National Life of Vermont, died at Montpelier, Vt., August 31, aged 79 years.

Deuchler, Louis, agent at Lyons, N. Y., died there March 12.

Dickson, J. J., life insurance agent at Birmingham, Ala., murdered there October 17, aged 35 years.

Dodge, Asa, general agent at Lexington, Ky., died there from general debility August 9, aged 75 years.

Dorris, Erasmus N., life insurance agent at Pittsburgh, Pa., died at Allegheny, Pa., April 7, aged 55 years.

Dwyar, Emerson D., president of the Winona Fire of Winona, Minn., died there from heart failure, February 21.

Dyer, Charles E., for seventeen years general counsel of the Northwestern Mutual Life, died at Milwaukee, November 25, aged 71 years.

Elder, Robert B., special agent of the Prudential of Newark, died there July 14, aged 62 years.

Folk, Augustus P., general agent for Massachusetts of the Metropolitan Plate Glass, died at Sharon, Mass., from hemorrhage August 5, aged 45 years.

Forbes, O. A., secretary of the Fire Underwriters' Association of Toledo, Ohio, died there October 3, aged 73 years.

Fowler, Henry, secretary of the Calumet insurance company of Chicago, died at St. Paul, Minn., from heart failure April 6, aged 37 years.

Frederick, Lewis R., agent at Shelbyville, Ky., died there from heart failure August 3.

Free, Ardenus Romer, fire insurance agent at Peekskill, N. Y., died there from heart disease December 24, 1904.

French, M. O., a life insurance agent at Knoxville, Tenn., died there from Bright's disease September 21, aged 47 years.

Friend, Roger B., assistant general agent of the Providence-Washington for the Pacific Coast, died at San Francisco, February 22, aged 31 years.

Gaines, E. P., former agent at Hot Springs, Ark., died from typhoid fever at Monticello, Ark., November 7.

Gallagher, Charles J., vice president of the Mechanics Fire of Philadelphia. Pa., died there October 11.

Gibson, James A., agent at Buffalo, N. Y., died by suicide at Niagara Falls, N. Y., June 22.

Gobel, Luther Spencer, late general agent of the Mutual Benefit Life at New York and former president of that company, also a former president of the New York Underwriters' Association, died in Morris County, N. J., January 20, aged 79 years.

Gobsill, Joseph, former secretary of the Hudson County insurance company of New Jersey, died at Jersey City, N. J., October 27, aged 75 years.

Goodell, Walter S., fire insurance agent at Boston, Mass., died there October 21.

Gooderman, George, president of the Manufacturers' Life of Toronto, Canada, died there May 1, aged 85 years.

Goodman, Thomas, the oldest fire insurance agent in Chicago, died there September 29, aged 89 years.

Goodrich, James J., former secretary of the old Manufacturers' insurance company of Boston, died August 12 at an advanced age.

Gorman, Roscoe W., general supervisor of agencies of the Travelers for Georgia and South Carolina at Atlanta, died there from a street accident April 17, aged 38 years.

Gould, George H., agent at Brockton, Mass., died there from grip February 6, aged 62 years.

Grauer, William, agent of the New York Life at Altoona, Pa., died there from heart disease July 16.

Gray, Lanier, agent at Roanoke, Va., died there from appendicitis May 1, aged 34 years.

Greene, Jacob L., president of the Connecticut Mutual Life of Hartford, died there from cerebral apoplexy March 29, aged 67 years.

Griswold, George I., manager of the State Mutual Life at Worcester, Mass., found dead in Raccoon River, near that city, September 16.

Grupen, Henry, oldest fire insurance agent in Pittsburgh, Pa., died there August 16, aged 77 years.

Guild, Charles E., of Guild & Eastman, Boston agents of the Liverpool and London and Globe, and former president of the American insurance company of Boston, died there February 15, aged 77 years.

Gunby, Fred R., general agent at Jacksonville, Fla., of the North British and Mercantile, died in New York city from angina pectoris October 8.

Guy, Josiah W., agent at Oakdale, Pa., died there April 23, aged 75 years.

Haeber, Gustave, manager of the Western Reserve Life, died by suicide at St. Louis, March 28.

Hall, Edward L., agent at Oakland, Cal., died there August 31.

Hanway, Patrick J., editor and proprietor of the *Vigilant*, died in New York from abscess on the brain June 5, aged 58 years.

Harmon, George D., State agent of the Milwaukee Mechanics for Missouri and Kansas, died from heart disease at St. Joseph, Mo., March 21.

Harris, Joanis O., the oldest active fire insurance agent in Illinois, and writer for the Chicago *Insurance Post*, died January 10 at Ottawa, Ill., aged 83 years.

Harvey, Thomas F., agent at Chicora, Pa., died there from heart failure May 4, aged 60 years.

Hasbrouck, Louis, of Rothermel, Hasbrouck & Co., Chicago, died there from jaundice June 24.

Hascom, Justin V., treasurer of the Granite State Fire of Portsmouth, N. H., died there May 4, aged 75 years.

Haskell, Henry Curtis, agent at Marshall, Mich., died there December 17, aged 85 years.

Hatter, Charles W., of Hatter & Warwick, Baltimore, Md., died there April 14, aged 65 years.

Havens, Franklin, secretary of the Albany, N. Y., Board of Fire Underwriters, died there by assassination May 1, aged 35 years.

Hawkins, Charles F., former special agent of the American of Newwark, died at Denver, Col., June 24.

Hawley, Robert, former secretary of the Board of Underwriters of Williamsport, Pa., died there September 30.

Hayes, Clarence H., of L. Burge, Hayes & Co., Boston agents, died there by suicide June 30, aged 60 years.

Heazlitt, William L., of Quick & Heazlitt, Albany, N. Y., died there from grip April 10.

Hedge, Charles Lyman, an independent adjuster at Syracuse, N. Y., once president of the Buffalo, N. Y., Board of Fire Underwriters, died from paralysis at Syracuse, February 22.

Hendricks, Augustus, British actuary, died July 13, aged 71 years.

Herrick, H. Walter, of Fred S. James & Co., Chicago, Ill., died from heart disease February 11.

Hewitt, Minerva, widow of the late Edgar A. Hewitt, of the *Chronicle*, and afterward proprietor, died in New York, May 3, from bronchitis.

Hilliard, Joseph C., former special agent for New England of the Ætna of Hartford, died at Washington, D. C., February 10, aged 84 years.

Holden, Charles W., former president of the Boston Life Underwriters' Association, and former fire, life and casualty agent at Boston, died there February 4, aged 67 years.

Hollingsworth, Ira B., agent at Pelham, Ga., died there July 27.

Hopkins, Herbert P., general agent at Worcester, Mass., of the State Mutual Life, died there from heart failure December 28, 1904, aged 46 years.

House, P. A., of the Franklin, Tenn., agency firm of Campbell, House & Werkins, died there August 1.

Howard, George B., agent at Elyria, Ohio, died from Bright's disease December 15, aged 33 years.

Howes, Alfred P., general agent of the Niagara Fire for New York State, died from accident at Utica, N. Y., December 1.

Hughes, Charles H., insurance agent at Galveston, Tex., died there December 28.

Humphreys, David, of D. Humphreys & Son, Norfolk, Va., died there July 5.

Hunt, Dr. Israel T., medical examiner for the National Life of Vermont, at Boston, died February 16, aged 64 years.

Hyde, Thomas, agent at Milwaukee, Wis., died there from heart disease October 26.

Jenne, Clarence F. R., fire insurance agent at Brattleboro, Vt., died there from pneumonia May 31.

Johnson, James Louis, general agent at Springfield, Mass., of the Massachusetts Mutual Life, died there from pneumonia December 18, aged 64 years.

Johnson, J. M. C., fire manager of the North British and Mercantile at the home office, died from Bright's disease October 17.

Johnson, W. H., insurance agent at Huntington, Pa., died there March 13.

Kavanaugh, Walter, agent of American fire insurance companies at Montreal, Canada, died there November 23, aged 65 years.

Kelly, Lewis L., former agent at Albany, N. Y., died at Troy, October 18, aged 79 years.

Kemp, Samuel E., former Insurance Superintendent of Ohio, died at Dayton, Ohio, May 22.

Kendall, J. Walter, superintendent for the Prudential at Louisville, Ky., died there from typhoid fever December 6, aged 28 years.

Kimball, A. W., general agent of the Northwestern Mutual Life at Chicago, died at Daytona, Fla., from appendicitis March 25, aged 61 years.

Kinman, George A., agent at Detroit, Mich., of the New York Life, died there from cancer April 15, aged 32 years.

King, Eli Russell, of Vardell & King, managers for the Equitable Life at Dallas, Tex, died there March 11, aged 36 years.

Kinnard, Robert, agent at Lancaster, Ky., died there from consumption June 19, aged 50 years.

Kirkpatrick, William H., agent at Philadelphia of the Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee, died by suicide September 26, aged 55 years.

Kitson, Henry, Michigan State agent of the Western and British America of Toronto companies, died from nervous prostration at Detroit, Mich., March 23, aged 55 years.

Knapp, James H., Pittsburgh, Pa., insurance broker, died at Sewickley, Pa., July 19, aged 58 years.

Knox, James Theodore, general agent at Utica, N. Y., died there from Bright's disease October 4, aged 60 years.

Kuntz, George, fire insurance adjuster of Chicago, Ill., died from heart disease August 4, aged 38 years.

Lamon, George A., of Lamon & Bullard, agents, died at Watertown, N. Y., from pneumonia March 14, aged 31 years.

Lang, S. Logan, agent at Camden, S. C., died there May 25.

Lear, J. F., agent at Lancaster, Ky., died there March 8, aged 40 years.

Leib, Charles F., of Frank R. Leib & Son, Harrisburg, Pa., died there from typhoid fever March 4.

Lewis, Benjamin F., adjuster of fire losses, Brooklyn, N. Y., died there January 19.

Liggett, John T., first secretary of the Michigan Mutual Life of Detroit, died there from paralysis March 16, aged 68 years.

Lindsey, R. B., agent at Jackson, Tenn., died there February 8, aged 35 years.

Linehan, John C., Insurance Commissioner of New Hampshire, died at Concord, N. H., September 19, aged 65 years.

Lloyd, Frederick M., assistant secretary of the Security of New Haven, died there May 13, aged 34 years.

Lord, C. H., Western special agent of the Germania Fire of New York, died at Milwaukee, Wis., from typhoid pneumonia January 24.

Loring, J. M., agent at Huntsville, Ala., died October 29, aged 50 years.

Loring, Prentiss, agent at Portland, Me., died there from pneumonia October 22, aged 71 years.

Lowry, Dr. Charles, medical examiner of the Mutual Life of New York, at Topeka, Kan., died there July 11, aged 64 years.

Lyon, George M., of the former Chicago general and local agency firm of Ducat & Lyon, died at Pasadena, Cal., February 6, aged 63 years.

Mackie, Wendell, special agent for Massachusetts of the Central Accident of Pittsburgh, died from pneumonia August 12, aged 31 years.

Martin, Frank E., fire insurance broker at New York, died at West Orange, N. J., April 1, aged 55 years.

Martin, Jane F., agent at Little Rock, Ark., died from an accident, January 27, aged 35 years.

Marvin, Charles M., life insurance agent New York city, died at Montclair, N. J., August 1, aged 61 years.

Mason, Ira J., Chicago manager of the Ætna Life, died there from paresis November 2, aged 71 years.

Mason, James Weir, former actuary of the Massachusetts Mutual Life and later of the Penn Mutual Life, died at Easton, Pa., January 10.

Matheson, Henrietta G., agent at Ogdensburg, N. Y., died there May 6.

Mathewson, Arnold B., agent at Central Village, Conn., died there January 30, aged 48 years.

Mattler, Isaac S., secretary of the former Merchants Fire of New York city, died at Brooklyn, June 12, aged 75 years.

McAdam, George G., of Stone & McAdam, agents at Rome, N. Y., died there from Bright's disease March 13, aged 47 years.

McCluer, James L., special agent and adjuster for the Ætna of Hartford in Kansas, Mo., and adjoining States, died at McCluer Station, Mo., October 8, aged 67 years.

McCraken, William J., Jr., agent of the New York Life at Pittsburgh, Pa., died there from apoplexy April 16, aged 44 years.

McDonald, John, agent at Evansville, Ind., died there from blood poisoning February 5, aged 73 years.

McGill, Andrew R., former Insurance Commissioner of Minnesota, died at St. Paul from heart disease October 31, aged 65 years.

McKim, John, agent at Baltimore, Md., died from Bright's disease at Blue Ridge Summit, Md., July 10, aged 68 years.

McSpadden, W. L., of the Knoxville, Tenn., agency firm of Hickman & McSpadden, died there from pneumonia March 6.

Merrill, Willard, former vice president of the Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee, died at Pasadena, Cal., August 8, aged 74 years.

Mertz, Fred, fire insurance agent at Indianapolis, Ind., died January 28, aged 74 years.

Miller, Bloomfield Jackson, vice president and mathematician of the Mutual Benefit Life of Newark, and former president of the Actuarial Society of America, died at Newark, N. J., April 1, aged 56 years.

Miller, Charles L., agent at Altoona, Pa., died there from dropsy October 22, aged 45 years.

Montgomery, Thomas Harrison, president of the American Fire of Philadelphia, and former general agent of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, died there from heart disease April 4, aged 75 years.

Montgomery, William H., agent at Rochester, N. Y., died from locomotor ataxia November 20, aged 68 years.

Moore, J. B., fire insurance agent at Richmond, Va., died there July 20.

Moore, John S., special agent of the Hanover Fire in Kentucky and West Virginia, died at Hopkinsville, Ky., February 26.

Morris, B. F., agent at Conally, Ga., died from heart disease at Atlanta, Ga., September 15, aged 35 years.

Munger, David S., head of the Chicago local agency firm of Munger, Vokoun, Wetmore & Witherbee, died at Chicago from hemorrhage of the brain April 23, aged 80 years.

Murdock, L. A., general agent at Boston for the Penn Mutual Life of Philadelphia, died January 31, aged 67 years.

Murphy, James, Jr., agent at Bayonne, N. J., died there by suicide April 13, aged 64 years.

Murton, Arthur W., inspector of agencies of the Canada Life for western Ontario, killed by railroad accident near High Park, Montreal, March 27, aged 50 years.

Nealley, Edward Bowdoin, president of the Merchants insurance company of Bangor, Me., died at Portland, Me., September 20, aged 68 years.

Nelson, W. L., of the general agency firm of W. L. Nelson & Co., Memphis, Tenn., died at Helena, Ark., November 6, aged 71 years.

Nichols, Charles M., agent at East Oakland, Cal., died at San Francisco, October 23.

Nichols, John A., president of the former Knickerbocker Life of New York, died at Brooklyn, N. Y., December 22, aged 74 years.

Nichols, Joseph O., special agent of the Merchants of Newark, died there March 20.

Overman, Reuben E., agent at Anderson, Ind., died there July 25.

Overton, William Austin, marine adjuster at Brooklyn, N. Y., died there December 27, aged 64 years.

Parker, Benjamin, general agent of the Union Central Life, died at Salina, Kan., from erysipelas February 8, aged 55 years.

Parker, Edward G., agent at Baltimore, Md., died July 1.

Parker, George A., former general agent for the Equitable Life in Wisconsin, died at Milwaukee, Wis., December 20, 1904, aged 47 years.

Parpart, Max., special agent of the Westchester Fire for New York city and suburbs, died from paralysis at Mt. Vernon, N. Y., June 7.

Parsons, Frederick A., former vice president of the Atlantic Mutual (marine) of New York, died in Brooklyn, N. Y., from apoplexy May 2, aged 66 years.

Paterson, James M., former president of the Germania Fire of Newark, N. J., died there from pneumonia October 29, aged 68 years.

Pegram, James W., second vice president of the Life Insurance Company of Virginia, died at Philadelphia, January 31, aged 62 years.

Penn, James R., agent of Fulton, Mo., died by suicide July 4, aged 42 years.

Perrin, H. W., agent for the Penn Mutual Life at Birmingham, Ala., died there from heart disease December 14, aged 56 years.

Perry, Herbert J., of Bowen & Perry, agents at Syracuse, N. Y., died there from diabetes November 2.

Perry, Michael F., assistant superintendent of the Life Insurance Company of Virginia at Asheville, N. C., died at Baltimore, Md., February 27, aged 31 years.

Phelps, David B., agent at Hebron, Neb., died from Bright's disease February 12 at Kansas City, Mo.

Pierce, James Farnsworth, former insurance superintendent of the State of New York, died in Brooklyn from paralysis July 7, aged 76 years.

Pinkham, E. E., agent at Schaghticoke, N. Y., died there September 19.

Platz, John H., agent of the Connecticut Mutual Life at Omaha, Neb., died there by suicide June 21, aged 52 years.
Pope, Arthur W., fire insurance agent at Boston, Mass., died June 16 at Dublin, N. H., aged 58 years.
Porter, Charles Ellsworth, agent at Hartford, Conn., died there from apoplexy September 27, aged 40 years.
Presson, Herbert, agent of Gloucester, Mass., died there from apoplexy April 1, aged 60 years.
Price, Edward A., secretary and treasurer of the Delaware County Mutual Fire, died at Media, Pa., from heart disease November 1, aged 70 years.
Ramsey, Edward G., life insurance agent at Pottstown, Pa., died there August 22.
Rand, Nathaniel, agent at Portland, Me., died December 1.
Ranlett, Seth A., former secretary of the Washington Fire and Marine of Boston, died from pneumonia at West Newton, Mass., May 21, aged 65 years.
Ray, Arthur W., special agent of the Providence-Washington for the middle department, Long Island and West Virginia, died in New York April 10, aged 44 years.
Reddy, Anthony W., agent at Newburyport, Mass., died there December 24, aged 72 years.
Rindge, Frederick H., president of the Conservative Life of Los Angeles, Cal., died at Yreka, Cal., August 28, aged 48 years.
Ripley, Sidney Dillon, treasurer and director of the Equitable Life of New York, died there from appendicitis February 24.
Romer, Egbert W., agent at Troy, N. Y., died there by railroad accident August 12.
Ross, J. Walker, of J. L. Ross & Co., Chicago, died by drowning at Green Lake, Wis., August 17, aged 30 years.
Rothermel, C. P., State agent for Texas of the Traders of Chicago, died at Dallas, Tex., of cirrhosis of the liver October 28, aged 64 years.
Rudd, James C., general agent of the Ocean Accident and Guarantee at Kansas City, Mo., died there September 9.
Rusk, John, agent at Middletown, N. Y., died May 10, aged 70 years.
Ryan, William F., actuary of the Missouri Insurance Department, died at St. Louis, Mo., from blood poisoning April 9, aged 49 years.
Sage, Calvin, agent at Wellington, Ohio, died there March 2, aged 72 years.
Sale, James E., agent at Cincinnati, Ohio, died there January 16, aged 60 years.
Schneider, John P., president of the Birmingham Fire of Pittsburgh, Pa., died there July 25, aged 75 years.
Schulz, Alexander H., vice president of the German Fire of Baltimore, Md., died there July 5, aged 77 years.
Seaton, John A., agent at Cleveland, Ohio, died there from heart disease August 5, aged 50 years.
Selvage, William, fire insurance agent at Morristown, N. J., died by suicide August 18, aged 50 years.
Sevier, Edward F., fire insurance agent at Chattanooga, Tenn., died at Cincinnati, Ohio, October 11, aged 65 years.
Shahan, James J., agent at Utica, N. Y., died there from consumption May 22, aged 33 years.
Shallcross, Louis Z., of the Louisville general agency firm of L. Z. Shallcross & Co., died from consumption at Las Vegas, N. M., April 7, aged 39 years.
Shaw, D. W., fire insurance agent at Lawrence, Kan., died there from cancer August 7, aged 77 years.
Shoemaker, John C., former president and one of the founders of the Franklin Fire of Philadelphia, died at Indianapolis, Ind., December 15, aged 79 years.
Short, Edward Lyman, general solicitor of the Mutual Life of New York, died in New York city, July 30, aged 51 years.
Shove, Theodore C., agent at Minneapolis, Minn, died from heart trouble October 30, aged 74 years.
Shumate, John Rust, general agent of the Union Mutual Life of Portland, Me., at Lynchburg, Va., died there February 20, aged 76 years.
Simpson, Jay T., agent of the Prudential at Denver, Col., died by suicide August 16.
Sinclair, William H., agent at Niles, Mich., died there September 28, aged 76 years.
Smith, George W., former agent at Burlington, N. J., died there April 8, aged 75 years.
Stout, Edward L., of Allen, Rogers & Stout, agents at Troy, N. Y., died November 21, aged 65 years.
Stroehlein, J. L., agent at Wheeling, W. Va., died there October 17.
Sullivan, Robert E., manager for the Northwestern National at Washington, D. C., died at Harrisonburg, Va., August 6, aged 40 years.
Swearingen, T. Brent, fire insurance agent at Pittsburgh, Pa., died there from apoplexy January 20, aged 70 years.
Symms, George, agent, of Atlanta, Ga., died there July 14.
Tenney, John, manager for the Royal for the middle department at Philadelphia, died at Camden, S. C., March 28.
Thomas, William A., manager of the *Insurance Observer*, of New York, died from heart disease June 12, aged 61 years.
Tillinghast, James E., vice president of the Equitable Fire and Marine of Providence, and secretary for many years, died there January 31, aged 53 years.
Todd, James H., agent at Dover, Del., died from neuralgia of the heart December 25, aged 64 years.
Towles, Henry O., former president of the National Union Fire of Washington, D. C., died there from heart failure November 16, aged 65 years.
Trefzer, Adolph, agent at Peoria, Ill., died at Los Angeles, Cal., from consumption April 3, aged 48 years.
Trull, S. Frankford, secretary of the New England Mutual Life, died from apoplexy at Woburn, Mass., February 23, aged 56 years.
Tucker, Thomas W., former president of the Firemen's Fire of Boston, died at Jamaica Plain, Mass., from paralysis October 27, aged 68 years.
Turnbull, James Bruce, manager for the State Mutual Life of Worcester at Utica, N. Y., died there December 7, aged 35 years.
Tyler, J. J., agent at Leominster, Mass., died there June 9.
Uhlfelder, Augustus, general agent of the Equitable Life at Montgomery, Ala., died in New York from apoplexy April 10, aged 45 years.
Van Auden, C. A., former fire insurance manager at Chicago, died in the House of Correction at Chicago, September 24.
Van Brocklin, J. T., agent of the New York Life at Little Rock, Ark., died from heart disease June 30, aged 59 years.
Voght, Harry H., agent at Buffalo, N. Y., died there December 26, aged 46 years.
Wakeman, Eugene, fire insurance adjuster, died at Chicago, Ill., January 7.
Walke, William Talbot, agent at Norfolk, Va., died there March 14, aged 68 years.
Ward, Herbert Edgar, assistant comptroller of the Prudential at Newark, N. J., died there February 28, aged 28 years.
Weaver, Thomas Russell, agent at Springfield, Mass., died there June 23, aged 55 years.
Wheeler, Dan H., Jr., agent at Omaha, Neb., died March 29.
Wilmerding, Herbert, late special agent of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, and secretary of the Committee of Twenty of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, died in New York from tubercular meningitis May 30, aged 45 years.
Wilson, J. M., agent at Manning, S. C., died June 4.
Wilson, Oliver E., agent at South Norwalk, Conn., died there August 14.
Wilson, Uriah B., former Pacific Coast manager for the Providence-Washington and Rochester German, died at Denver, Col., from hemorrhage of the brain November 16, aged 78 years.
Wise, P. V., agent at St. Joseph, Mo., died there February 3.
Wolfe, Dr. Solomon Baird, former inspector of agencies of the Washington Life, died in New York city from heart disease December 13, aged 60 years.
Woodbridge, William B., vice president of the Columbian National Life of Boston, killed in an auto accident at Cliftondale, near Lynn, Mass., June 14, aged 35 years.
Woods, A. A., agent at New Orleans, La., died there July 1.
Wright, Benjamin F., former State agent of the Pacific Mutual Life at St. Paul, Minn., died there from Bright's disease February 5.
Wright, Charles C., assistant manager of the Colonial Life at Philadelphia, died there by suicide December 19.
Young, Harry W., Southern special agent at Atlanta of the St. Paul Fire and Marine, died at Montgomery, Ala., from paralysis December 14.

Union of the Pacific Mutual Life of San Francisco and Conservative Life of Los Angeles, Cal.

An amalgamation of the Pacific Mutual Life of San Francisco and the Conservative Life of Los Angeles, Cal., has been effected. The company will take the name of the Pacific-Conservative Life insurance company, with offices in both cities, but policies will be written from San Francisco. Col. Wilber S. Tupper, president of the Conservative Life, will be president of the consolidated company, and the directors of both companies will compose the new board. Other officers will be: George I. Cochran, vice president; John F. Roche, second vice president and actuary; Dr. William R. Cluness, senior medical director. The remaining officers will be selected and announced later.

In announcing the merger the company has sent out a statement, from which the following extracts have been taken:

It will be the largest life insurance merger ever effected in the United States. The consolidated company will show insurance in force of nearly $100,000,000, assets exceeding $10,000,000, and surplus of $1,100,000. It will be the only life insurance company domiciled on the Coast or having home office in the Western States. It will be one of the largest companies of the United States. It will be the largest one west of the Northwestern Mutual of Milwaukee, and larger than all the Chicago companies combined. It will be larger

than all the Indianapolis companies combined, and much larger than all the Iowa companies combined. It will practically be the only life insurance company of the whole region west of the Mississippi River. With the single exception of the Northwestern Mutual of Milwaukee and the Union Central of Cincinnati, Ohio, it will be the largest company in the United States not located on the Atlantic seaboard.

Under the consolidation many economies are possible. There will be but one set of officers, instead of two. Thousands of dollars will be saved in home office expenses, and many more thousands in field operations. In many places where both companies have a branch or agency in the same city the same will be consolidated, saving rent, managers' and cashiers' salaries. The greater strength and prestige of the combined company will attract business even more readily than either does at the present time. In view of the fact that the Conservative Life alone writes more business than any other company does in California, the combination will sweep the Coast and all the Western States. Since the Conservative Life single handed has beaten the giants in California, the combination may be expected to be the leading and most prominent insurance force on the entire Coast, and no doubt eastward to the Mississippi River.

Life Insurance—The Investigation, the Evil and the Remedy.

(*Dr. William A. Fricke in the New York Herald January* 1.)

The hearings of the New York legislative investigating committee are over—and now an expectant world awaits the recommendations of the committee, offered as the panacea for all the evils—real and imaginary—complained of.

One of the results of this investigation—*more investigations*—is shown by the action of the special session of the Wisconsin Legislature in the appointment of a legislative committee to investigate life insurance companies, and there are thirteen more legislatures, besides New York, scheduled for 1906, a large portion of whose time will be devoted to reforming and investigating the life insurance business.

Yet as a matter of fact the revelations of the 1905 New York investigating committee were not near as startling as were the exposures of the New York investigating committee of 1877, nor has there been a single revelation in the recent investigation to which attention had not previously been called in some insurance department report.

Who is there with any pretensions to a knowledge of the life insurance business who did not know that mutual companies were mutual only in name; that stock investments and subsidiary companies were used as speculative adjuncts of some companies, making a "ticker" a necessary and important office fixture; that officers were growing rich acting as the collecting and distributing agents of the members who composed and were the real owners of the companies; that enormous surplus accumulations were not necessary to maintain solvency or guard against unforeseen contingencies, but to hide and enable large and extravagant expenditures; that the methods and practices employed would have wrecked any other business, and which have made of *life insurance the only business in the world in which competition has increased the cost to the public?*

The methods, practices, unnecessary accumulations and opportunities all tended to one end—a contest for control on a rule or ruin basis among the captains of finance, merely as a matter of philanthropy.

But for the internal dissensions in one company and the public interest excited by the criminations and recriminations, prevailing conditions would have continued a little longer, but once the public was aroused political policy accepted the dictum for an investigation, but with fear and trembling, hoping that, as in the past, the output of the investigation could be supervised and controlled.

THE FIRST STARTLING DEVELOPMENTS

came with the publication of the Frick report, wherein, in an exposure of the methods and practices in the Equitable, the real seat and cause of all evil was more nearly touched upon than has anything which has since followed—*the needless accumulation of millions of surplus and the unaccountability of the management as to this fund.*

Next followed, in compliance to public demand, an examination of the company by the New York Insurance Department, and while no additional exposures, the Superintendent of Insurance's report of the examination was remarkable for the remedies suggested to correct life insurance evils. "*Mutualization,*" and "*the same stringent restrictions as to investments as now imposed on savings banks by the laws of this State,*" were the remedies proposed.

In view of the fact that the contest of the factions in the Equitable ostensibly centred around a substitution of a system of proxy voting on the part of policyholders, for stock control, it is difficult to understand just what the Superintendent of Insurance meant by "*mutualization,*" or how whatever he did mean could have been of the slightest benefit to the policyholders. But this recommendation was remarkably interesting, if for nothing else, at least as an exhibition of the consistency which characterizes the New York Insurance Department. Several months prior to this Equitable examination the Superintendent of Insurance was forced to take notice of the practices and methods prevailing in the Washington Life insurance company, by reason of the

EXPOSURES APPEARING IN THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER,

and made an examination of that company, the result of which, to the surprise of the superintendent, showed that the company had falsified its annual statement for a number of years, that the management was reckless and extravagant, its investments subject to criticism, and the company impaired to nearly the verge of insolvency, and while this condition necessitated a change in the management, the remedy in this case was not "*mutualization*" but increasing the capital of $125,000 to $500,000—imposing upon the policyholders of the company an annual expense of $35,000 as stock dividends instead of $8,750 previously paid, notwithstanding that with the increase of capital and most considerate and favorable valuation of assets, the company was left with only $75,000 of surplus. And so this company too passed into the control and under the same philanthropic influences which now prevail in the Equitable.

The other recommendation contained in the report of the examination of the Equitable, "*the same stringent restrictions as to investments as imposed on savings banks,*" hardly offers a better remedy for the real evil in life insurance managements than does "*mutualization,*" because it does not strike at the root of the evil.

The total assets of all life insurance companies in this country are exceeded by the total savings banks deposits of all the savings banks of this country by only $700,000,000, and of the total life insurance assets 52 per cent. are owned and held by three companies—the Mutual, Equitable and New York Life. Suppose 52 per cent. of all the savings fund deposits of this whole country were deposited in just three savings banks here in New York, would it be reasonable to suppose that with the same restrictions upon these three banks as to investments they would still be able to pay to their depositors the same high rate of interest? Life insurance companies, while they should have less latitude in the character of their investments, do not so much require more stringent restrictions as their managements require *more stringent accountability as to the funds confided to them for investment.*

For several years to come the flood of bills and enactments presented in the various States of this Union will give to life insurance companies another opportunity to demonstrate their absolute financial soundness and stability where without makeshift or evasion the legal standard of reserve has been maintained. Failures there will be, but the failures will be confined to the newer and smaller companies, and some of these will simply be legislated out of existence in the efforts to reform the business. There are few people who hoped for just the result—and perhaps the only

RESULT—ACCOMPLISHED BY THE NEW YORK LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATION:

a better popular understanding of the simplicity of life insurance. Those in the business expected either no good results at all or great harm, and from the experience of the past in this State there was every reason that there would be no good results, but great harm, for New York in the past has done less real good and more real harm to the business of insurance than any half dozen States of this Union have been able to accomplish.

There have been more legislative investigations of insurance companies and the insurance department in New York than in any other State, and nothing in the interest of the insured followed as a result; there have been more failures of insurance companies in New York than in any other State, and nothing has been done to make failure in the future less possible; since John A. McCall left the office of Superintendent of Insurance in 1886 the examinations made by the New York Department have been looked upon with doubt and misgiving by the departments of other States; there have been no laws enacted in New York for years of the least possible benefit to the policyholders, while much of the legislation enacted has furnished only a bad example too often followed by others, and yet there is no other State

in the Union for which insurance companies have done so much—no other business has so materially added to the wealth of the State and made its development in so many ways possible and profitable; what other business has or could have been so much a factor in making New York city the financial centre of the world? Much stress and emphasis have been laid upon the

LEGISLATIVE EXPENDITURES OF COMPANIES,

but it has been entirely overlooked that it was the great State of New York in the first instance, by its vicious enactment in 1865, which made it necessary that insurance companies scrutinize with the utmost care every bill of enactment offered in the Legislature.

Well meant perhaps, but oppressive and expensive in its consequences, because of the resurrection of that relic of barbarism, an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth—*the retaliatory law,* providing that whenever another State imposed a condition, requirement or tax upon a New York company, then the same condition, requirement or tax be imposed by this State in retaliation. Instead of a menace against injudicious legislation, it became an example followed by thirty-two other States, and from that time dates the necessity as a part of good management to scrutinize with zealous care all propositions introduced, not only in this but all other States.

It will hardly do to charge life insurance companies at that time with the authorship of, or with the influence which prompted the enactment of this law; there were eighteen such New York companies in 1865, with assets all told of only $23,000,000, and the entire membership of the New York Life, Mutual Life and Equitable combined was less than 37,000, distributed all over the country, and this membership represented more than one-half of the entire membership of the combined eighteen companies.

This vicious law has cost insurants a hundredfold more money than all the life insurance companies have disbursed in legislative expenditures, if every dollar so expended could be traced and exposed, and it is of no particular credit to any company, however loudly declared, that no money has been contributed or paid for legislative purposes, for the companies which have escaped or evaded such expenses have done so at the expense of those who did contribute and by such expenditure were saved greater impositions by preventing unjust or vicious laws.

TAKE, AS AN EXAMPLE,

the Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee, which for years prided itself for not giving up a dollar either for defense or tribute, and the management did not feel it had to, so long as the legislation proposed affected all companies alike, the larger of which would be compelled to make the battle for defense, but six years ago a law was enacted in its own State directed especially against the Northwestern Mutual Life, with the result that during the past six years the company has paid in taxes and retaliatory fees, by reason of this law, $2,000,000 *more* than it paid during the preceding six years. Since then even the Northwestern Mutual has seen the necessity of retaining legislative counsel.

Last year the reform Governor of Wisconsin strenuously urged the enactment of a life insurance tax law which had it been enacted, would have imposed a tax upon life insurance companies doing business in that State equal to a gross premium tax of from 7 to 14 per cent., and the special beauty of this law would have been that the fairer and more equitable a company in dealing with its policyholders the greater would be its tax; under such a law, with the retaliatory laws of other States applied, as they would have been, the taxes of the Northwestern Mutual would have been further increased from $1,200,000 to $1,400,000 annually. And now, for having been so perniciously active in guarding the interests of its policyholders, that company is to be the chief victim of a reform legislative investigation, which it is hoped may be the means of creating enough amazement by a distortion of facts and glaring headlines to keep the wave of reform moving until at least after the next political primaries.

Legislative expenditures do not by any means imply bribery or graft. The man who is honestly wrong, who believes that what he advocates will result in great benefit, is a more difficult proposition to deal with, and his arguments are more insinuating and plausible; then there is the man who attempts to satisfy a grievance with a new law, and the other man who lost his case, determined to correct the ignorance of the court by a new enactment, and the company, too, often trying to gain a special advantage at the expense of competitors and the people. All these are more dangerous than the grafter. The grafter is always in the very small minority and is always a coward, and how few there are of such, with *fifty-one States and Territories* to deal with, is best evidenced by this New York legislative investigation.

THE BRUNT OF THE BATTLES AGAINST ADVERSE LEGISLATION

was borne, and the powder and shot paid for by the three or five companies—nearly all other companies withanxious haste pleading not guilty to such expenditures, and guilty in reaping the benefits; yet when all the money expended for such purpose is apportioned to the fifty-one States and Territories, with their many sessions of the legislatures during the period covered by the investigation, and the numerous bills and enactments presented and looked after, we marvel how reasonable the expense, and how unreasonable that so necessary a precaution of good management should have been shifted on so few companies and their policyholders compelled to bear the whole burden of expense.

Of course rightfully there should not be even this expense, and there would not if the individual policyholders could be sufficiently interested—but they cannot be. There would be no necessity for primary election laws if attendance at the primary were a prerequisite for registration to vote on election day; primaries then would be regulated by political parties in their own interests so as to gain the most favorable consideration on election day without legal enactment, but as such primary attendance is not a prerequisite, primary laws become a necessity for a free expression of the individual voter and a check on the boss and the machine. If the policyholder cannot be depended on and will not assist the company to guard against adverse legislation, the management is compelled to engage legislative counsel to do what the policyholder will not do. Yet this was one of the most commented on and most glaring revelations of this investigation.

The real evil that does exist—and all other matters complained of are but fungi growing up in its shadow—has been of a gradual thirty-five years' encroachment upon the simple fundamental principles of life insurance.

While the growth of life insurance in this country has been marvelous, foreign countries excel in the thoroughness and simplicity of their laws and the method and publicity of insurance supervision. A study of the laws of Germany, for example, show that two essentials control in the supervision and conduct of life insurance: First, that life insurance properly conducted is neither more nor less than the mutual combining of a large number of individuals contributing to a common fund, each by his contributions insuring himself, all sharing alike in the burdens and benefits, the predominant characteristic of such an organization being that perfect equity and economy must prevail in order that the greatest good may come to each individual at the least possible cost, and second, strict accountability as to the funds confided to the management, and as the contributions are for insurance only, eliminating all speculative and investment features, an accounting and return at short periods of all funds to the contributors beyond the needs for the cost of the actual protection provided.

THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW AND THE SCOPE OF SUPERVISION

seem only an enforcement of security, economy and mutuality. The American company, with the legal reserve deposit requirements, limitation on the expense for obtaining new business, and short period accounting, is practically a distinct and separate organization as to its business in Germany, offering not only better protection but greater security, irrespective of what may happen to the company in its own or other countries, and in the enactment of its recent law France is practically following along the same lines. Even in Russia the American company is subjected to the requirement of short period accounting to each policyholder, while here in the United States the greatest safeguard, next to the legal reserve, possible to devise, *annual apportionment and accounting to each policyholder,* has always been either overlooked or opposed.

If life insurance managements had been held by law to the same strict accountabilty as to surplus accumulations as has been the requirement as to the legal reserve, there would have been no startling revelations or necessity for legislative investigations.

There has been no question as to the solvency of any of these companies; not even a suspicion that the reserve had been tampered with, and it remains an undisputable fact that *no life insurance company has failed where there was strict compliance with the reserve requirements laid down in the law;* what failures there have been were due to non-compliance with that law. This being true it follows that with an annual apportionment and accounting to each policyholder, the funds of a life insurance company would all be placed under the same stringent restrictions now applying to the reserve, and the last element tending

to mismanagement and extravagance would have been removed. The result would be even greater than that, for by such an annual apportionment and accounting rivalry between companies would resolve itself into a competition of conservatism and economy of management to show results to and for the policyholders.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTING TO EACH POLICYHOLDER

places upon each individual composing the management of a life insurance company a responsiblity which cannot be evaded, and upon the faithful and favorable performance of which depends not only his own tenure as an officer but also the future success of the company.

What is a life insurance company organized for?

To furnish life insurance.

What is the only purpose for which a life insurance company can receive money for?

To furnish life insurance.

If, then, a policyholder has paid to the company more money than was required to pay for the insurance provided in his policy contract, *what is the only justification for the company's retaining the overpayments?*

Furnish more life insurance, or, so add the overpayments to the reserve held on the policy as to shorten the period of future premium payments.

Life insurance is a very simple business proposition, and the greatest measure of its usefulness is obtained by confining its scope within the limits of its original purpose. The things which seem mysterious or difficult to understand to the man of average intelligence, are the matters injected into the business of life insurance, and have or should have no place in so benevolent a necessity of our social economy.

The cost of life insurance is not the premium paid in the beginning of the year, but the difference between the premium paid and the amount apportioned and accounted for at the end of the year, so that the greater the amount of the annual saving apportioned and accounted for the lower will be the cost; only in such manner can the cost of life insurance be lowered, and by this means only is applied the real test of efficiency of management. Next to an annual apportionment and accounting to each policyholder, the most important requirement is a

RESTRICTION OF THE COST OF NEW BUSINESS

by confining such cost to the loading for expenses of the new premiums actually received in cash by the company. On such a basis, whatever be the percentage rate of commission to the agent or length of time such percentage is paid, each policy would be paying its own cost without encroachment on the funds of other policyholders; such method of compensation would also act as an incentive for the agent to maintain the persistency of the business written, especially if all brokerages, bonuses, advances or allowances of any kind, direct or indirect, were prohibited.

These are the only new laws required to correct the evil.

With annual apportionment and accounting, and restriction as to the cost of new business, it can make no difference whether

....Gal 3—Life Insurance....

it be a stock or mutual company, the results to the policyholder alone will determine its merits; size will be limited within such confines as will give the best results, and as the compensation of agents cannot with a proper law be increased without increasing premium rates, which competition would prevent, the large and the small, the old and the new company would all be on an equal basis, by which means rebating would receive its most effective and only check, as a proper law for annual apportionment and accounting would necessitate a definite provision for the ascertainment of the actual divisible surplus, thus laying down the rule for a bedrock basis of asset value, all the restrictions as to investment necessary will be provided and all speculative tendencies eliminated; in short, these two laws will correct every evil complained of in the life insurance business, and will enable the repeal of a number of useless and ineffective laws now on the statute books.

There has been and is enough authority in the law of every State to check and correct excessive salaries, legal, legislative and other expenditures, juggling with collateral loans and the sale and purchase of securities, by requiring detailed statements as to these items and schedules for publication in the annual department reports; there is authority enough to prevent excesses and extravagance in this direction without the enactment of new laws —*publicity* is the most effective safeguard for the future. But there is one other matter requiring serious and urgent attention and for the evils of which

THE SOVEREIGN PEOPLE ARE TO BLAME:

the basis and character of the supervision given to these great insurance interests.

Every State has its own insurance department in which the office of superintendent or commissioner is a political job; men secure the position by political pull; seldom is there even so much as an inquiry as to the candidate's knowledge of insurance, and an incumbent with such rare qualifications is a political accident; it has been known even to be resented as pretentious and improper. The only really remarkable thing about State supervision is the fact that there have been a few superintendents or commissioners who actually had or acquired such a knowledge of insurance to be of real service to the public and the business, but being a political office they too had to go, just as will the select few who are now in office.

Departments of insurance have degenerated into mere revenue collecting bureaus. During the last thirty years fully $150,000,000 have been collected by the various States as fees and taxes from the insurance companies, and what return in protection or safety has been made to the policyholder for such an imposition?

Next to the claimants or beneficiaries the State is most largely interested in the solvency of these institutions; by them, dependents and homes are maintained, children educated and lost wealth restored, yet year by year they are singled out for new and additional tax impositions, and the cost of insurance correspondingly increased—for the policyholder always pays the freight.

Insurance departments are severely criticised for not having discovered shortcomings in their examinations. Such criticisms no doubt are made under the impression that examinations are for the protection of the people. This surely would be the purpose, but if they are should not the State pay the cost and enable the examiners to make examinations without the humiliating sense of obligation to the company and leave them free to criticise every wrong. But under the law of nearly every State, the company examined, and not the State, is compelled to pay the cost of the examination. Last year the Wisconsin Legislature, with but one dissenting vote against it, passed a bill to right this wrong, and the man who has convinced himself that he is the biggest alleged reform governor that ever was vetoed the measure, insisting that the companies continue to pay.

There is hardly more than one insurance department in this country enabled under its laws to go in and make an examination requiring a month or two months' time without first arranging with the officers of the company to be permitted to draw funds out of the treasury to periodically pay the examiners and expenses as the examination progresses. Wonder how much criticism would have appeared in the daily press if the insurance companies had been advancing the money every week to pay the editors, reporters, printers, and stood off the paper man. That there has been criticism by insurance commissioners under these circumstances in the past, to whom these examination fees, or call them what you will, were unrighteous perquisites, shows that there were some pretty mean men in office, but they did not stay long, for which, too, the people were to blame. Why, any insurance commissioner who had attempted to conduct so one-sided an inquisition as the legislative investigation, even at his own expense, would either have been promptly enjoined by the courts or removed from office.

For nearly a full year these life insurance companies and their managements have been under constant daily criticism, inuendo and insinuation, and how much of actual wrong or downright dishonesty has there been to warrant such an assault? What other financial institution depending upon the confidence of the public could have withstood such attacks and weathered the storm still solvent?

There have been mistakes, the mistakes of a wonderful, marvelous growth and rapid accumulation of untold millions, but there is also much more to commend and approve. There has been blame, but that calmly considered, and when properly distributed, leaves few of us, in or outside of the business, without all fault—and the remedy is a simple not a drastic one.

WILLIAM A. FRICKE.

NEW YORK, January 1, 1906.

A Fire Test of Fire Shutters.

An interesting and successful fire test of a fire shutter, constructed by the American Automatic Fire Curtain Company, of Buffalo, N. Y., was held at the Columbia University Fire Testing Station at 116th street, near Broadway, on Thursday afternoon.

The shutters are made of galvanized steel plates about 12 inches wide, which slide one over another and have interlocking

grooves at the upper and lower edges. These plates are normally held in place at the top of the window by a catch and fusible link, and are so arranged as not to obstruct the passage of light through the window. A galvanized steel groove with overlapping edges protects the shutter at the sides when closed.

At the testing station three windows were fitted with the shutters, window No. 1 with shutters inside and out, and Nos. 2 and 3 with shutters only on the outside. The shutter on window No. 3 was constructed with iron rivets and the others with aluminum.

The inventors claimed before the test that the shutters would fall as soon as the fire had gained sufficient headway to fuse the link supporting them, and that after their fall they would hold the fire in check for at least twenty minutes—long enough for the fire apparatus to arrive.

Fire was started at 2:10 p. m. and allowed to burn slowly, as under ordinary circumstances, until the shutters dropped This occurred six minutes after the match was applied, the single shutters closing within ten seconds of each other and the double shutter at window No. 1 about a minute and a half later. With all openings closed the fire was allowed to burn for twenty minutes, during which time the temperature as recorded by electric thermostats averaged about 700° Fahr. There was no sign of any of the shutters buckling, and at 2:30 the door was opened, disclosing a fire gradually becoming deadened in its own smoke. More wood was then piled on and the temperature raised to a little less than 1,000° Fahr., and was held at that degree for fifteen minutes longer. Thirty-five minutes after the shutters had dropped the door was again opened, showing the fire again in a half smothered condition, with a temperature of 1,000° Fahr. The shutters remained at this time in practically as good condition as when they had first dropped.

All draughts were then opened and more fuel piled on, and in a few seconds the temperature was raised to 1,162° Fahr. At this point the shutters which were equipped with aluminum rivets began to go to pieces owing to the fusing of the rivets. No. 3, however, which had iron rivets, held out to the end. The double shutter went to pieces at 1,480° Fahr. Water was then applied and the fire extinguished.

The test proved successful in showing that the shutters were capable of confining a hot fire to the room in which it starts, long enough at least for the fire department to arrive from a long distance. It also demonstrated the advisability of the use of iron and steel bolts in the construction of shutters in preference to aluminum.

The Report of the Armstrong Committee Foreshadowed.

The New York *Times* has "authoritative information" that the report of the Armstrong Investigating Committee will contain recommendations for remedial legislation along the following lines:

1. Effective participation of policyholders in the administration of the companies and such modification of Section 56 of the insurance laws as will enable a policyholder to bring the acts of directors or trustees before the courts for review without the intermediate red tape now required by the statute.
2. An extension of the powers of the Insurance Department so that there will be no question of its right to supervise the entire administrative management of insurance companies. This will mean the abandonment of the theory that the department need concern itself only with the question of solvency.
3. A degree of publicity that will enable policyholders to keep informed regarding the management of their companies.
4. Requirements that the insurance companies shall keep their accounts in such a fashion that illicit relations with financial enterprises of various kinds will not be possible without detection.
5. A uniform system of audits.
6. Standard forms of policies which will not permit of ambiguous and elusive provisions.
7. The prohibition or rigid limitation of deferred dividend policies of the tontine form.
8. Additional safeguards against forfeiture.
9. A requirement that the profits accruing from the different departments of the business shall be justly apportioned to the policyholders entitled to receive them.
10. Prohibition of the control of subsidiary financial institutions by life insurance companies.
11. Restrictions as to deposits carried with the loans to banks and trust companies.
12. Restrictions regarding investment in corporate enterprises in process of promotion, the success of which is a matter of speculation.
13. A requirement that insurance directors or trustees shall not have business affiliations which will interfere with their judgment in passing upon financial proposals submitted to their insurance companies.
14. A requirement that a greater proportion of funds shall be invested in real estate, bond and mortgage than now is turned into these channels by the larger companies.

The committee's recommendations in some respects embody the most radical suggestions of reform that have been made in the sessions of the last four months. Four general lines of remedial legislation are laid out. The first, embraced in topics 1 to 4, inclusive, contemplates a marked increase in the rights of policyholders in the management of the companies. The second, embraced in topics 5 to 9, inclusive, provides for greater safeguards of a technical character. The third, comprising topics 10, 11 and 13, contemplates a radical readjustment of the relations existing between life insurance companies and other corporations in which they or their directors or trustees may be interested. The fourth line of legislation, suggested in topics 12 and 14, will restrict the latitude with which life insurance funds may be invested.

The attack foreshadowed on Section 56 of the insurance laws, which provides now that any policyholder's suit against a company for an accounting must be brought through and in the name of the Attorney General, indicates at the outset how far the Armstrong Committee is prepared to go in its recommendations of reform. This section has been defended by various companies as being the only effective means of preventing strike suits of all kinds, and thus insuring legal proceedings in the interest of all policyholders rather than some particular aggrieved individual.

It is not considered likely that the section will be repealed entirely, and a suggestion that received favorable consideration when it was made to the committee was that a policyholder should be allowed to seek from a justice of the Supreme Court permission to institute his action.

Resignation of John A. McCall as President of the New York Life Insurance Company.

At a meeting of the trustees of the New York Life insurance company held on Wednesday the following communication was received from John A. McCall, in which he resigned the presidency of the company:

To the Board of Trustees:

At the close of 1905 I have been in life insurance as clerk and as State and company official for forty years. I have been president of this company fourteen years. They have been fourteen very busy years. The results show that. It is no exaggeration to say that the progress of this company during that time has been little less than astonishing. The progress has been real progress, too. The work has been well done. Risks have been soundly selected; assets have been wisely invested.

In the period of my services as president I have made mistakes. It is easy to see mistakes after events have fully developed the situation. Anyone can be wise then, but when facing great problems daily it is not so easy to be inerrant. My errors probably seem greater to me today than they seem to any even tolerably just critic; but, notwithstanding that, I am not without comfort. My consolation comes from these considerations:

First, the unprecedented achievements of the company.

Second, that no officer or trustee has profited improperly during that time to the extent of a dollar at the expense of the policyholders.

It is perhaps enough to say this of the achievements of my administration: We have kept the company intact, as it was when I became its head; and, at the close of 1905, have added net to the company as it stood at the end of 1891 a volume

of outstanding insurance which, in round figures, equals $1,480,000,000. This total, gathered in fourteen years, approximates the entire outstanding insurance of the Mutual Life at the close of its sixty-second year, and is very close indeed to the outstanding insurance of the Equitable at the close of its forty-sixth year.

The progress of the company during my presidency can best be shown by the following tables:

	Dec. 31, 1891.	Dec. 31, 1905.
Assets	$125,947,290	$435,000,000
Income	31,354,194	102,000,000
Dividends of year to policyholders	1,260,340	5,000,000
Total payments of year to policyholders	12,671,491	40,000,000
Number of policies in force	182,803	1,000,000
Insurance in force, premiums paid	575,689,649	2,061,000,000

The achievements of a lifetime, if judged by ordinary standards, have been crowded into that period of fourteen years. Knowing that the work is not only vast in extent, but sound in quality, knowing that in every act I have striven to protect the policyholders' interests, I hand you back the commission which you gave me at the beginning of 1892. I say the commission which you gave me, and then I remember that of the board which first elected me president of this company only three remain. Time has indeed wrought changes.

To you, gentlemen of the board, I extend my thanks for the steadfastness with which you have stood together in the interest of the company during a period of unprecedented trial. To the men in the executive staff I would like adequately to express my sense of obligation, but the obligation is so great that it is hopeless to attempt to cover it here. No corporation has, or ever had, an abler, more loyal, or more expert force. Without them the work could not have been done. They deserve the entire confidence of the board. My thanks go, too, to the junior officers and heads of departments all over the world, and especially do I acknowledge my indebtedness to an agency force which in loyalty, enthusiasm and efficiency was never equaled.

I believe my retirement will make all tasks easier, all burdens lighter, all problems simpler. In that hope, I hereby tender my resignation as president of the New York Life insurance company, to take effect at once. I remain,

Very respectfully yours,

JOHN A. MCCALL.

The resignation was accepted and the trustees advanced the recently elected vice president, Alexander E. Orr, to the presidency, attaching a salary thereto of $50,000 per annum. All the remaining vice presidents were advanced in order, Darwin P. Kingsley becoming the ranking first vice president in place of Mr. Orr, and Thomas A. Buckner becoming the second one of the first vice presidents. Rufus W. Weeks, the actuary of the New York Life, was advanced from a second vice presidency to be first vice president. This leaves Messrs. Ingersoll and Perkins, the latter a brother of George W. Perkins, as second vice presidents of the company. Mr. Perkins is in charge of the agency force. The vacancy in the number of second vice presidents created by this promotion will not be filled at present.

To a question as to whether John C. McCall and Darwin P. Kingsley would continue in the service of the company, President Orr said:

"That is hardly a fair question to ask of me at this time, but so far as I am concerned I certainly hope that they will do so, for I have found them thoroughly equipped for their duties. In justice to President McCall I think it should be said that the speeches made regarding his administration today were all to the effect that the company had prospered under him and that whatever mistakes he had made were not those of the heart."

SAFETY FUND INSURANCE.

NIAGARA

Fire Insurance Company

OFFICE: 135 & 137 BROADWAY. OF NEW YORK.

The

Connecticut

Fire Insurance Company

Of Hartford

JANUARY 1, 1906.

Cash Capital,	$1,000,000.00
Reserve for Reinsurance,	2,852,315.16
All Outstanding Claims,	232,131.03
Net Surplus,	1,729,173.17
Total Assets,	$5,813,619.36

J. D. BROWNE, President.

CHARLES R. BURT, Sec'y. W. T. HOWE, Ass't Sec'y.

The Mutual Benefit

LIFE INSURANCE CO.

NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

ASSETS (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1905,	$93,237,790.27
LIABILITIES,	85,918,227.30
SURPLUS,	7,319,562.97

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

How's Your Backbone? Can You Stand Alone?

Agents who can answer "strong" and "yes" to the above questions, and who want to be advanced more than they want advances, can secure splendid contracts with liberal renewal commission guarantees from the

Security Trust and Life Insurance Co.

BROADWAY and 26th STREET, NEW YORK

Mr. Thomas Bradley, President

Mr. Geo. B. Luper, 2d Vice-President and General Manager

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 11 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis and Cleveland.

ASSETS, $128,094,315.24

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1904 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $103 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1904:

391 per day in number of Claims Paid.

6,561 per day in number of Policies issued.

$1,426,700.50 per day in New Insurance Written.

$114,060.67 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.

$73,326.81 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks,	$64,270,818.12
Bonds and Mortgages,	33,094,145.00
Real Estate,	16,806,932.86
Cash,	7,323,372.74
Loans to Policyholders,	2,889,649.63
Premiums deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,246,081.13
Accrued Interest, Rents, etc.	463,315.76
	$128,094,315.24

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves,	$112,351,323.00
All other Liabilities,	907,772.25
Capital and Surplus,	14,835,219.99
	$128,094,315.24

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security, ... $277,290,466.48

Number of Policies in Force, ... 8,029,906

Amount of Outstanding Insurance, . . $1,470,424,281.00 Amount of Insurance Issued in 1904, . . $436,570,349.00

RECORD OF GROWTH IN TEN YEAR PERIODS:

	Income.	Assets.	Surplus.	Pols. in Force.	Outstanding Ins.	
1884—	$2,915,937.86	$2,304,004.87	$613,120.25	675,477	$77,658,420.00—	1884
1894—	18,208,742.75	22,326,622.16	4,034,028.21	3,574,909	441,375,367.00—	1894
1904—	55,985,756.91	128,094,315.24	14,835,219.99	8,029,906	1,470,424,281.00—	1904

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS:

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice Pres.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di.
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di.
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

1825. THE 1905.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,443,725.09
Surplus	2,585,263.42
Total January 1, 1905	$6,428,988.51

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

"SAFE AS A NATIONAL BANK NOTE."

The Inter-State Life

ASSURANCE COMPANY,

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

CHARLES A. SUDLOW, President. F. P. DAVENPORT, Secretary

EASTERN DEPARTMENT: 621 Walnut Street, PHILADELPHIA.
H. E. ROBERTS, Second Vice-President.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410.42	$11,290,773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1904	$2,617,755.75
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,406,159.17
Joint Stock Capital	500,000.00

THE METROPOLITAN PLATE GLASS AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK.

Home Office: 47 Cedar St.

Chartered 1874. The Oldest New York Company in Its Line.
Assets, January 1, 1904, $591,813.08.
Surplus to Policyholders, 389,895.29.

Plate Glass and Personal Accident Policies

OF THE MOST APPROVED FORMS

EUGENE H. WINSLOW, President. DANIEL D. WHITNEY, Vice-Pres't.
S. WM. BURTON, Secretary. ALONZO G. BROOKS, Ass't Sec'y.

RELIABLE AND ENERGETIC AGENTS WANTED.

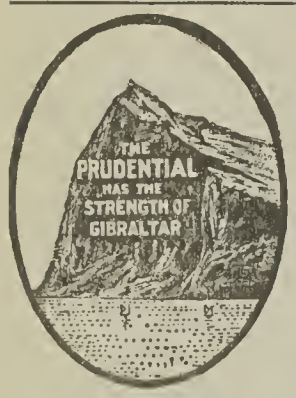
Provident Life and Trust Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. **THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY** invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

Every Man Interested

in selecting a profession that offers the greatest prospect of success should read the booklet, "CAREERS FOR THE COMING MEN," by Hon. JOHN F. DRYDEN. It is a practical discussion of the opportunities offered in the field of life insurance. A copy will be sent free upon request.



The Prudential

Insurance Company of America.

Incorporated as a stock company by the State of New Jersey.

Home Office: Newark, N. J. JOHN F. DRYDEN, President.

Prudential Agents are money makers. Open territory for energetic men. The Grand Prize was awarded the Prudential at the St. Louis Exposition.

INCORPORATED 1865.

GERMAN INSURANCE CO.

OF FREEPORT, ILL.

The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$5,546,127.97
Cash Capital,	200,000.00
Liabilities, including reinsurance,	3,617,361.34
NET SURPLUS,	1,728,766.63

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

The Preferred Accident Insurance Co.

OF NEW YORK.

Accident Policies. Health Policies.

Large Benefits, Low Rates, Best Commissions.

January 1, 1904.

Assets,	$1,152,330
Surplus,	439,609

KIMBALL C. ATWOOD, Sec., 290 Broadway, NEW YORK.

HANOVER

Agencies in all the Principal Places in the United States.

Fire Insurance Company

OF NEW YORK.

Germania Fire Insurance Co.

Southeast Corner of William and Cedar Streets, New York.

STATEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1905.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Premium Reserve	2,524,219.17
Reserve for Losses under Adjustment	182,967.55
Reserve for all other Claims	6,287.51
Net Surplus	2,639,225.50
Total Assets	$6,352,699.73

HUGO SCHUMANN, Pres't.

FR. VON BERNUTH, GEO. B. EDWARDS, Vice-Presidents. CHARLES RUYKHAVER, GUSTAV KHER, Secretaries.

Royal INSURANCE COMPANY (FIRE) OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

Statement of United States Branch,

JANUARY 1, 1904.

Assets, held in the U. S. for the special protection of its American Policyholders.	$8,520,383.40
Liabilities,	5,204,870.83
Net Surplus, January 1st, 1904,	$3,315,512.57

AGENCIES IN ALL THE PRINCIPAL CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

Provident Savings Life Assurance Society

OF NEW YORK.

EDWARD W. SCOTT, PRESIDENT.

THE BEST COMPANY FOR POLICY HOLDERS AND AGENTS.

SUCCESSFUL AGENTS, AND GENTLEMEN SEEKING REMUNERATIVE BUSINESS CONNECTIONS, MAY APPLY TO THE HEAD OFFICE, OR ANY OF THE SOCIETY'S GENERAL AGENTS.

CHARTERED 1866.

Hartford Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

Up to date in business methods—in contracts—in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.

$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.

Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.

INVESTIGATE.

THE STANDARD LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY OF DETROIT, MICH.

INCORPORATED 1884.

All forms of Accident, Sickness and Liability Insurance.

D. M. FERRY, PRESIDENT.
E. A. LEONARD, SECRETARY.
W. C. MAYBURY, MNG. DIRECTOR.

Cash Capital, $250,000.00

C. A. TIMEWELL, Mgr. Metropolitan Dept., 92 William St., N. Y. City.

THE AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

OFFICE COMPANY'S BUILDING. 308 and 310 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

CASH CAPITAL	$500,000.00
Reserve for Reinsurance and all other claims	2,116,118.40
Surplus over all Liabilities	222,677.40

TOTAL ASSETS, JANUARY 1, 1905, $2,838,795.80.

JOHN H. PACKARD, JR., President.
WAITE BLIVEN, Secretary.
WM. F. WILLIAMS, Treas. and Asst. Sec'y.
EDWARD MANEUVRE, Asst. Sec'y.
LOUIS S. AMONSON, Secretary of the Agency Department.

DIRECTORS:

John H. Packard, Jr. John S. Gerhard.
Joseph E. Gillingham. Edward Lowber Welsh.
Charles S. Whelen. Archibald R. Montgomery.
Edward F. Beale. Thomas K. Ober, Jr.
Francis E. Bond.

Caledonian Ins. Co., of Scotland.

FOUNDED 1805.

"The Oldest Scottish Insurance Office."

United States Head Office, 50 and 52 Pine Street, NEW YORK CITY.

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1904.

Assets	$1,734,353.51
Liabilities	992,722.08
Net Surplus in the United States	$741,631.43

CHARLES H. POST, U. S. Mgr. N. A. McNEIL, Ass't U. S. Mgr.

INCORPORATED 1799.

Providence Washington Insurance Company,

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

CONSERVATIVE
PROGRESSIVE
FAITHFUL

¶ Some of the cardinal aims of the *Union Mutual* management are—to be conservative in the choice of investments—to be progressive in the prosecution of the business—to be faithful to the interests of policyholders.

Agents of like inclination cordially welcomed.

Union Mutual Life Ins. Co.

Portland, Maine

FRED E. RICHARDS, *Pres.* ARTHUR L. BATES, *Vice-Pres.*

For Territory address either

EDSON D. SCOFIELD, Superintendent, 180 Broadway, N. Y. City.
THORNTON CHASE, Superintendent, 84 Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846—1905.

On January 1st, 1905, **The Connecticut Mutual** had received from its members $232,759,294.33. It had returned to them $234,353,488.98, or **$1,594,224.65** more than the amount received from them. It had assets on hand of $65,224,841.53, and a surplus of $4,828,696.64 with which to meet a liability, actual and contingent, of $60,396,144.89 on $167,167,515.00 at risk on 70,454 policies. Except in the possible case of some society or concern with only a local and slight membership, no comparable results have been accomplished by any other American Life Insurance Company.

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President.
HENRY S. ROBINSON, Vice-President.
HERBERT H. WHITE, Secretary.
DANIEL H. WELLS, Actuary.

56th ANNUAL STATEMENT
OF THE

NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

(MUTUAL)
Montpelier, Vermont.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, President.
JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President.
JAMES B. ESTEE, Second Vice-President.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary.
HARRY M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
A. B. BISBEE, M. D., Medical Director.
CLARENCE E. MOULTON, Actuary.
FRED A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

JANUARY 1, 1906.

CASH INCOME.	
Premiums	$5,434,225.68
Interest and rents	1,486,199.29
Consideration for annuities	521,241.23
TOTAL	$7,441,666.20

DISBURSEMENTS.	
Death claims	$1,339,967.49
Dividends and annuities	363,301.93
Endowments and surrender values	1,125,357.53
Taxes, commissions and all other disbursements	1,587,690.32
Income Saved	3,025,348.93
TOTAL	$7,441,666.20

ASSETS.	
Bonds	$13,388,241.00
Mortgages, first liens	13,133,031.05
Policy loans and premium notes	4,630,439.57
Real estate, book value	939,517.10
Cash in banks and office	1,144,720.08
Interest and rents due and accrued	592,855.37
Deferred and unreported premiums	686,732.24
Due from agents	3,556.63
TOTAL	$34,519,093.04

LIABILITIES.	
Insurance reserves	$27,902,848.21
Annuity reserves	2,194,310.35
Extra reserves	266,432.47
Trust fund reserves	68,068.76
Death claims under adjustment	69,683.27
Liabilities	195,997.47
Surplus	3,821,752.51
TOTAL	$34,519,093.04

THE YEAR 1905 SHOWS:

Increase in Insurance	$10,719,350	Increase in Surplus	$363,676
Increase in Assets	3,120,639	Insurance Issued	26,318,183
Increase in Income	546,652	Insurance in Force	145,480,904
Increase in Payments to Policyholders	398,538		

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1906. No. 2.

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Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

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WE beg to advise a correspondent who suggests that the members of the New York State Legislature of 1905 be investigated by a committee of officers of life insurance companies, by order of the Legislature of 1906—Mr. Hughes to be employed as chief counsel—that the proposition is impracticable. The estimable New York *World,* which claims the exclusive credit of starting and personally conducting the late inquisition, has been laboring mightily with the Legislature to induce it to investigate itself under the friendly auspices of its own committee, but without avail. Governor Higgins says that he has no intention of advising the Legislature to take such unusual measures, and even the reformer Brackett has not included the searching of his own and his brothers' hearts in his program of reform. So the great problem of "how did he get it," as applied to the New York legislators of 1905, will never be solved. Much zeal is exhibited in several States in the promotion of legislation to destroy the lobby. There is a Mississippi bill which calls for the registration of "the paid employees of those special interests which seek to be promoted at the public expense," and provides for the exploitation of their pleas before committees in open session. This is well enough, so far as it goes, but it does not touch the sore spot. The legislator meets the lobbyist in the dark and secluded corners of the State house, or the hotel or the boarding house, or while driving in a buggy on the macadamized road. Let the sleuths of reform follow him thither.

IT is not easy to keep pace this week with the bills introduced in the legislatures to improve life insurance. That the schemes of the cranks would kill the business can be taken for granted, but some of the legislation proposed by well meaning reformers is no better. What a curious insurance world it would be if all of them could have their way! The Kentucky legislator demands that eighty per cent. of the legal reserve on policies written in that State shall be invested in the State. Iowa calls for the deposit with its State Auditor of securities equal to the legal reserve on Iowa policies. Kentucky wants an annual accounting of surplus and a distribution every three years, Iowa an accounting at the close of each year, Brackett, of New York, a distribution at least once in each twelve months, Maryland a distribution in not less than every five years. Iowa favors a standard life insurance policy. A Massachusetts bill and one by Brackett require access to lists of policyholders of all companies. Kentucky would limit the salary of the officer of any life insurance company transacting business in the State to $50,000. Brackett would go further; he would have all salaries of officers subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Insurance, and should any company evade this provision the Attorney General shall proceed to dissolve it and distribute its assets among the policyholders. Brackett would tackle the life insurance problem in divers other ways. He would utterly prohibit the tontine or deferred dividend business, the insurance of minors of thirteen and under, and the insertion of waivers in policies. Ohio and Iowa want life insurance investigations of their own. Commissioner Host clamors for an extra session of the Wisconsin Legislature to make more insurance laws. All the Governors, except the New Jersey executive, make recommendations, and out of the tumult rises the calm voice of the hard headed Rhode Islander advising his Legislature to go slow. "I would warn at this time," says Governor Utter, "against hasty action on a matter of such great importance. At the present time conditions are not sufficiently understood to warrant the making of extensive changes in our insurance laws." Notwithstanding the flood of "reform" in the legislatures, we believe that soberness in the treatment of life insurance will obtain in the end.

IN the discussion going on of ways and means to reduce the cost of life insurance the factor of proper selection by medical examination must not be overlooked. The mortuary records of the more important life companies and fraternal societies show that from 25 to 50 per cent. of the total number of deaths annually have been of persons whose insurance had been in force three years or less. The burden that this premature decay lays upon life insurance is obvious. That so large a proportion of impaired lives pass the medical examinations successfully is not for a moment to be charged to any general custom of corrupt combination between physician and agent, for the classes to which both belong rank as high for conscientiousness as any others. The *Medical Examiner and Practitioner,* in its latest issue, draws attention to the effort that is being made by life insurance medical directors to induce medical colleges to give special instruction to students in the science of examination for life insurance. It points out that medical examination requires knowledge of quite another order from that made at the bedside of a patient. And yet there are very few medical colleges that have chairs devoted to the making of the competent insurance examiner. A canvass instituted by a committee of the National Fraternal Congress resulted in the discovery that of 166 medical colleges addressed on the subject only about twenty-five per cent. gave some form of special instruction for medical examinations in life insurance. A graduate may therefore be well up in general medicine and superficially educated as to insurance examinations, with the result that companies have to carry a larger percentage of imperfect lives than they would were there a higher standard of education in this specialty. When it is considered that there are some 20,000 medical examiners for life insurance in this country, and

that more than $7,000,000 was paid to physicians for examinations in 1904, the importance of this part of life insurance work will be appreciated. The movement to add special instruction in life insurance examination to the curriculum of our medical colleges should have the active support of the companies. Of the nature of this instruction the report to which we have alluded says:

So many deaths occurring during the first three years of the policy life causes an unnecessary burden and hardship on insurance concerns which cannot be attributed, in but a small degree, to dishonesty or carelessness on the part of our medical examiners. We are of the opinion that it is largely due to the absence of proper instructions, prior to beginning the practice of medicine, as to what contributes a proper subject for life insurance. To receive such instruction after they begin their vocation in life and assume the duties of insurance examiners not infrequently burdens insurance organizations of every character with early deaths through the faulty judgment of the medical examiners. If in addition to the training which students receive in medical colleges to fit them for the practice of medicine, instructions were given in the basic principles of life insurance, the influence of heredity, occupation, environments, habits, deformity, height as related to weight, etc., on life expectancy as shown by mortality tables, as well as the present physical condition of the applicant, they would be prepared to enter successfully on the duties of medical life insurance examiners. This would mean the saving of millions of dollars annually by the exclusion of undesirable risks.

Facts and Opinions.

Nine hundred clerks of the New York Life insurance company are contributing toward the presentation of a **loving cup to John A. McCall.** No officer or trustee of the company will be allowed to subscribe, and the subscriptions are limited to 50 cents each or less. It is expected that $400 will be raised. It was announced yesterday that a mortgage has just been placed by Mr. McCall on his property near Long Branch, N. J., to secure payment to the New York Life of $150,000. At the eleventh annual reunion of the Albany Society of New York on Wednesday night long and enthusiastic cheering followed the mention of the name of Mr. McCall by the toastmaster. There were 200 Albanians present. Of the **feeling in insurance circles towards Mr. McCall** the *Insurance Press* this week pertinently says:

It does not matter so much what a man is—what the people believe him to be is his so called "reputation." There is a formula for "reputation"—so many tons of printing ink spread on so many tons of paper, circulated day after day. Thus mediocre persons become great, scoundrels become both great and good, and good men are temporarily, if not permanently, besmirched. It was undoubtedly because Mr. McCall felt that the reputation which has been thrust upon him would interfere with the future business of the New York Life that he tendered his resignation as an act of consideration for the agents and the policyholders. He would not stand in their way, even though a majority of the board of trustees did not favor his withdrawal. The general feeling toward him in the insurance business is one of profound sympathy. So much is admirable in his record that it seems as though he is sacrificed because he is not perfect. He inspired the affectionate regard of unusually large numbers of men—and that will remain with him always, we confidently believe.

The annual meeting of the **Boston Life Underwriters' Association** took place at the Parker House Tuesday afternoon, and these officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Charles E. Townsend, Equitable; vice presidents, James G. White, Travelers, and William H. Dyer, Berkshire; secretary, James F. Chase, United States Life; treasurer, Francis Marsh, John Hancock; executive committee, J. Howard Edwards, National; L. L. Hopkins, Mutual; A. L. Curtis, New England Mutual; H. N. Haven, Phœnix Mutual; Leon F. Foss, Berkshire. The dinner which followed the business meeting was complimentary to the Barnard brothers, Darwin and Franklin, who have recently retired from an honorable business career as Boston general agents of the Penn Mutual Life, and have done yeomen's work in the upbuilding of the association, of which Darwin Barnard was president and Franklin Barnard secretary in its early years. Heartfelt tributes to the worth of the Barnards and sincere wishes for their happiness in retirement were expressed by former Presidents Woodman, Phelps, Warren, Hedges, Baldwin, Sanborn, Appel, Cranston, L. L. Hopkins and Vice President Dyer, and received eloquent acknowledgment by Darwin Barnard on behalf of himself and brother. The new president, Mr. Townsend, made a distinctly favorable impression, and acquitted himself remarkably well in his maiden effort at directing the after dinner proceedings of the association. He well pointed out how the value of association privileges was increasing year by year for the men in the field, especially at this juncture, when some of the companies have been under fire and all of them under sharp scrutiny. Though rivals in business, the cause of one, in a broader sense, was, as he justly remarked, the cause of all. The following testimonial to the Barnards was unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

The Boston Life Underwriters' Association tenders to Messrs. Barnard Brothers, Darwin and Franklin, on the occasion of their retirement January 1, 1906, from active connection with the business of life insurance, this testimonial of the esteem they have won by their high personal character, honorable business methods and the unfailing support of and efficient official service given to the association respectively as president and secretary, expressing the hope that in their well earned repose after years of strenuous toil they may long experience the serene enjoyment which follows the worthy performance of duty.

The results of energetic yet conservative management have again been exemplified by the annual statement of the **New Amsterdam Casualty Company** of New York. The company now has assets amounting to $932,402.81, an increase over last year's assets of nearly $100,000. Complying with the recent enactment of the liability reserve law in New York the company has set aside $168,616.22 as a reserve for all undetermined claims and losses, as against $84,318.18 set aside for that purpose last year. The reserve for reinsurance has also been increased from $258,575.48 to $284,912.70; yet notwithstanding these increased liabilities, the charging up of which is required by law, the company shows a net surplus over all liabilities amounting to $105,023.09, which is an increase of $2,772.58 over the net surplus of last year. During 1905 the New Amsterdam increased the funds for protection of policyholders $100,000. The surplus as to policyholders is $119,423.09. An interesting fact that goes to prove that policyholders in this company are benefiting by its successes is that the company has paid losses amounting to $1,182,305 up to January 1, 1906—an amount considerably in excess of its total assets. An excellent list of securities in which the assets are invested is another evidence of sound management. The officers of the company are W. F. Moore, president; J. D. Redding, vice president; George E. Taylor, secretary; George C. Pratt, treasurer, and W. J. McCaffrey, general manager.

The **Committee of Twenty** of the National Board of Fire Underwriters has issued its **report on the city of Chicago.** The report follows the lines of the admirable report on the Manhattan and Bronx districts of New York, and shows the same painstaking care and exhaustive research. The following is the summary of the conditions found by the committee:

The city is fortunate in having its heaviest consumable values in five practically separated districts. The most important section from the standpoint of values and conflagration hazard combined is the main downtown portion between the river, lake and Harrison street. It is subject to very severe vicinity fires in several parts. but a general fire over the whole district is improbable, owing to the chain of fireproofs on Dearborn and La Salle streets, crossed by minor chains, and the advantageous grouping, with these and other fireproof buildings, of sprinklered risks. This section is practically cut off from the neighboring ones, owing to the clearance provided by the river with its sparsely built up north and west banks, as well as the high grade protection given the risks lining the river. These two sections, the north and the west, are, and will be, until more closely built up, unim-

portant from a general conflagration hazard standpoint, although subject to bad vicinity fires. The packing house section, which is practically isolated, provides a compact group of high value, but involves little probability of a general conflagration, in view of the good protection and vigilance maintained. A bad hazard still exists in the lumber district. The total destruction of this district might, under unfavorable conditions of wind and water supply, result in the spread of the conflagration to the centre of the city across the intervening largely frame area. Such an occurrence, however, is unlikely.

Application was made to New York Supreme Court Justice Davis on Thursday by several of the directors of the **Empire Life insurance company** through Blandy, Mooney & Shipman, as attorneys, for the appointment of a receiver in proceedings for a voluntary dissolution of the corporation. It is alleged that several claims have not been paid recently, and that a $3,000 judgment, obtained by Frederick W. Brower, is yet unpaid. The Empire company is a co-operative corporation, with offices at No. 200 Broadway. The directors making the application believe that it would be for the best interests of all if a voluntary dissolution were had. The Attorney General was represented in court by Mr. Mason, his deputy, but Justice Davis said that he would take no action until Mr. Brower had a chance to appear. The Empire Life insurance company was organized in 1891, and reorganized four years later as an assessment concern. At the recent insurance investigation Stacey Wilson, secretary of the corporation, testified that the assets consisted of only about $8,000, while the liabilities exceeded $40,000. It has only been doing business in New York, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, having been barred from several States. The president, Evelyn L. Bissell, died recently.

The appointment by Fire Commissioner John H. O'Brien of **Hugh Bonner,** former chief of the New York fire department, as deputy fire commissioner for Manhattan, was announced Thursday, and is generally commented upon favorably by fire underwriters. Mr. Bonner was succeeded by Chief Croker in 1899 after he had been connected with the local fire department for nearly forty years. He began fire fighting as a volunteer, and became chief in 1888, holding the position eleven years with distinction. In 1901 he went to the Philippines, remaining there two years and organizing a fire department. The position of deputy commissioner pays $5,000. Charles C. Wise has been named as the Brooklyn deputy. He was superintendent of buildings under President Littleton, and also receives $5,000. William A. Hawley, who becomes secretary to Fire Commissioner O'Brien, is a Buffalo insurance man and son of Edward S. Hawley, well known in insurance quarters there. The salary is $2,500. Alfred M. Downes, secretary of the fire department; John P. Burns, cashier, and Peter J. Quigley, secretary of the Relief Fund, hold over.

Holding that by reason of the agent's representations the **insanity clause in a policy** on the life of Charles A. Taylor, of Milwaukee, had been waived, the Appellate Court of Indiana has decided that Cassius M. C. Willis, administrator, can recover from the Metropolitan. Mr. Taylor applied for insurance June 1, 1901. The policy was delivered ten days later. In the meantime the insured had been declared insane and was incarcerated at the Central Hospital, Indianapolis, where he shortly afterwards died of paresis. The policy contained the usual provision that unless the insured was in sound health at the time of its delivery it would not bind the company. The evidence indisputably showed that five years before Taylor had suffered a sunstroke, and that his mind was affected by it. Mrs. Taylor, wife of the insured, however, informed the agent who came to collect the premiums that her husband had gone insane. The agent said that it was all right, the company would pay the loss, and thus encouraged her to pay the premiums. Hence the court's decision.

In an affidavit in reply to the charges made against him by George E. Sickels at the New York Legislative Investigating Committee of promoting and advising on methods of rebating, **Gage E. Tarbell,** second vice president of the Equitable Life, says:

I unequivocally deny that in said conversation, or in any other conversation, I made to Mr. Sickels the statements attributed to me in his testimony, to wit: That I said or suggested to him that he could offer to a person, as an inducement to take out a policy, a sum of money for letters of introduction, which could be used or not used, nor did I make to him any statement from which he could infer that I advised or approved the indirect form of rebating to which he refers, any form of rebating, direct or indirect. I may add that I have frequently stated to agents that they could properly make use of policyholders, or their friends who are not policyholders, to assist them in securing business, either through personal introductions or letters of introduction, and that they could compensate such assistance by a commission upon the business actually secured and paid for through such introductions, this entirely irrespective of whether the person thus furnishing the introductions takes insurance or not.

Mr. Tarbell declares that other statements made by Mr. Sickels are "absolutely false."

The **Home Life of New York** passed through the investigation ordeal with flying colors, and the credit it secured by the voluntary commendation of the committee has attached unusual interest to its annual statement this year. The assets now amount to $17,886,594.88 and the net surplus to $1,204,400.47. The insurance in force at the close of last year was $79,775,340, an increase during the year of $4,883,051. The real estate of the company is carried at its actual cost, which is below the real value. Its securities are worth $189,352.13 above cost, but a fund of $225,000 is voluntarily carried as a liability to meet possible fluctuation in price of securities, etc. Its general contingency fund in addition to the above item is $1,204,400.47. The Home Life apportions its dividends annually, and its policyholders may at any time ascertain the condition of their individual accounts. Prosperity and security under the guidance of President George E. Ide are the salient features of this old New York company.

On Tuesday Asa S. Wing began his duties as the new president of the **Provident Life and Trust Company,** of Philadelphia, succeeding Samuel R. Shipley, who has been president since the company's organization in 1865. In reference to reports that the company has used money to influence legislation at Harrisburg, Mr. Shipley before retiring made the following statement:

The Provident Life and Trust paid last year to Marlin E. Olmsted, one of the leaders of the Harrisburg bar and a United States Congressman, $7,500 for using his influence to have two unfavorable insurance bills buried in committees. It also has paid, for a number of years, a salary of $2,000, outside of his regular commissions, to William M. Scott, one of its agents, for staying in Harrisburg while the Legislature has been in session, looking out for bills that might affect the company and having them killed. This action in retaining the services of lawyers to defeat injurious legislation was taken solely for the benefit of the policyholders, and not one cent was paid to legislators. Mr. Olmsted and Mr. Scott are gentlemen of the highest integrity.

The National Fire of Hartford has withdrawn from the **Underwriters' Association of the State of New York,** and gives its reasons in a communication to the secretary of the association thus:

Our decision upon this step has not been hastily taken; on the contrary, only after mature deliberation and reluctantly; but a long record of inefficiency and supineness on the part of your association has at last culminated in such acts of indifference to the interests of the local agents and companies alike that, hopeless of reform from within, we have no other recourse than withdrawal. It would accomplish nothing at this time to direct attention to numberless instances of that lack of policy, progressiveness, competency, regard for the interests you are pledged to serve, or fidelity even to your own rules, which have strained our patience to the breaking point, and it will suffice if we say that the failure of your association upon an appeal, where the facts were admitted, to protect the rights

of the local agents and local boards, and your failure to respect the very rules you have forced upon them renders the conclusion inevitable that so far as this company is concerned the U. A. of N. Y. S. has outlived its usefulness as at present organized.

An interesting series of **fire tests** have been held recently at Vienna, Austria, with **a model theatre,** to ascertain the best method of ventilating the stage and auditorium to prevent the spread of fire and to guard against loss of life in case of fire. The report of the tests is as follows:

The results obtained from the fire tests have led to the conclusion that the most effective means of reducing the danger from theatre fires is to provide means for the escape of the dangerous gases and smoke generated by the fire on the stage through ventilators on the roof of the stage. Such ventilators on the stage, working, if possible, automatically, as soon as the fire breaks out, have been proved to be the most certain means of protection to the public, and the greater the number of such ventilators the greater is the success of confining the fire to the stage. Experiments conducted, on the other hand, with closed ventilators showed that the auditorium was, in an incredibly short space of time, filled with gases, smoke and flames to such an extent that it would hardly be possible to save the lives of the spectators. The iron curtain in such cases proved an inadequate protection, as the pressure of gases from the stage interfered with its descent.

The **Home of New York** still leads the procession of American fire insurance companies. Its assets are now $21,239,052.88, and its net surplus over contingencies and all liabilities, including capital, is $8,720,501. The surplus as regards policyholders is $11,720,501. The assets increased about $1,800,000 in 1905, and the net surplus about $1,350,000. The 105th semi-annual statement will be found in our advertisement department this week. The following is the latest list of the directors and officers of this great corporation: Directors, Levi P. Morton, Cornelius N. Bliss, John H. Washburn, Elbridge G. Snow, George H. Hartford, Henry F. Noyes, Lucien C. Warner, Dumont Clarke, James B. Van Woert, John Claflin, Cord Meyer, Levi C. Weir, John H. Flagler, Emanuel H. A. Correa, Samuel D. Styles; president, Elbridge G. Snow; vice presidents, Emanuel H. A. Correa and Frederick C. Buswell; secretary, Areunah M. Burtis; assistant secretaries, Henry J. Ferris and Clarence A. Ludlum.

The **Chicago Underwriters' Association** went out of existance at the meeting of members on Tuesday, and was succeeded by the **Chicago Board of Underwriters.** The change was made to get the association, which has operated as a voluntary organization, under the protection of the old special charter and corporate form of the Chicago Board, which has been continued for years to carry on the fire insurance patrols. The association members then met and turned over the property to their successors. The board then reconvened and elected its officers, as follows: President, E. M. Teall; vice president, L. O. Kohtz; secretary, R. N. Trimingham; treasurer, H. W. Magill; manager, H. H. Glidden; superintendents of ratings, E. N. Goodwillie and O. W. Ray; chief surveyor, W. D. Matthews.

The unfortunate group of warehousing buildings in the peninsula district of Boston, known as the Wormwood series, caught it "good and plenty" in Building No. 3 last Tuesday morning, when fire practically annihilated the stock of the **Railway Supply and Manufacturing Company,** insured for $74,,000, while a 50 per cent. loss is estimated on the leather stock of Proctor, Ellison & Co., insured for $43,500, and on the pianos of Hallet, Davis & Co., insured for $17,000. Probably 25 per cent. will cover damage to building, insured for $88,000. Only last September a $70,000 fire happened in Building No. 2, and in August, 1904, values of about $200,000 were burned in Building No. 4. The group is partially sprinklered, and probably would have fared better if it had been equipped with heads throughout.

The full bench of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts has decided against C. Mabel Woodford, of Rockport, Mass., who sued the Phenix of New York for the recovery of $600 upon a policy of insurance upon the Pigeon Cove House, destroyed by fire January 29, 1903. On Friday of last week the court ruled that **the company's liability was voided** by her taking **additional insurance** on the property **without its consent.** Besides the prohibition of additional insurance the policy contained the 80 per cent. coinsurance clause, and by this clause, the defendant claimed, the company had, by implication, authorized additional insurance without its consent. But the court holds that it had not that effect. The property was valued at $17,400 and the insurance thereon aggregated $18,500.

An article on **Federal supervision of insurance in the States** has been written by Judge S. F. Wilson, of the Tennessee Court of Chancery Appeals, for the *Insurance Leader* of St. Louis. The judge is opposed to the scheme, and sums up his objections as follows:

Reduced to propositional form, the objections to Federal supervision of the insurance business are these:

First—Federal supervision is unconstitutional.

Second—It is inexpedient and unwise, because it will not protect the public as well as supervision by all the States.

Third—It will invite another corrupting agency into the Federal body politic.

Fourth—Its adoption will be a forceful argument against the truth of the fundamental idea heretofore regarded as being an essential basic idea of our free representative form of government, in that it involves the assumption that the people are incapable of local self government.

Employers and others who had claims against **the American Surety Company** received from it upon those claims during 1905 the sum of $671,540.57, and after providing for those payments and expenses incident to the business, the net result from all sources was $454.581.74, apportioned as follows: Dividends at 8 per cent., $200,000; to the reserve, $63,015.46; to undivided profits, $191,566.28. The net premium receipts for the year were $1,617,429.64, an increase of $153,565.57 compared with 1904. The above shows the results of surety business strictly, as the company does not transact burglary, plate glass, steam boiler or accident insurance business. The American Surety had to pay claims on 1,204 defaulting employees during the year, an increase of seventy-one.

The first of the year the **Pennsylvania Casualty Company** made an additional deposit of $150,000 with the Insurance Commissioner of Pennsylvania. This increases its deposit from $100,000 to $250,000. The capital stock of the company has also been increased from $200,000 to $300,000. The agency department of the Pennsylvania Casualty Company has been greatly strengthened by the addition of Mr. Edward Walker, who for some years was connected with the Correspondence Institute of America as instructor in advertising. Mr. Walker will devote his entire time to preparing advertising matter for the company and in devising methods of publicity for its agents.

More than fifty guests of the **Capitol Life of Colorado** sat down to a New Year's spread at Denver, on December 30, given as a complimentary affair to the company's agents by President Thomas F. Daly. "In the five months beginning August 1 the company has written a trifle over $2,500,000 of business," said President Daly, "while the record for December has been $682,500." He spoke of bright prospects for the new year. Other speakers were Milton Smith, of Denver, who spoke on "Insurance from the Attorney's Point of View," and Dr. John W. O'Connor, on "Tough Cases Examined." The company was incorporated July 1, 1905, and has had a phenomenal growth.

At a meeting of the **Boston Board of Fire Underwriters,** held Tuesday last, the new plan for schedule committee terms was put into effect, and members of that committee were chosen as follows: For fifteen months, Edward D. Blake; for twelve months, Alfred M. Bullard; for nine months, James Bruerton; for six months, William H. Rogers; for three months, Frederick B. Carpenter. A proposition of the tariff committee for the adoption of a floater to insure merchandise, except at railway and shipping terminals, at 1½ per cent., was referred back to the committee. Samuel Reed, C. H. Porter and W. B. Henderson were elected members of the tariff committee for three months.

The extensive business of the **Travelers of Hartford** in the city of New York has been strengthened by the appointment of Earles F. Holmes as manager of the Nassau street office and of William Bruce Mann as agency supervisor of the accident department. James G. Batterson, who has for several years represented the company in New York as manager of the liability department, becomes resident director here. The company's business occupies the entire fifth floor of the Bank of Commerce Building, No. 31 Nassau street, and the whole front of the Metropolitan Life Building, No. 1 Madison square, and in the two offices more than 180 persons are employed.

The Kentucky and Tennessee Board of Fire Underwriters has sold its **Tennessee records** to Clem G. Wheeler, who recently organized the **Tennessee Inspection Bureau.** Joseph M. Rogers, formerly rating commissioner for the Kentucky and Tennessee Board, who also began the organization of a rating office in Tennessee, will be rating commissioner for the bureau. Charles Zehnder has resigned as assistant rater in the office of the Kentucky Board to become chief rate clerk in the Tennessee Bureau. It will operate throughout the State, with the exception of Memphis, Nashville, Knoxville and Chattanooga, making advisory rates for the companies.

A temporary injunction, issued by Judge Morrow, of the United States Circuit Court, has been served on Insurance Commissioner Wolf, of California, restraining him from revoking the license of the **Boston Marine insurance company,** which has been doing business in California since 1882. Commissioner Wolf says the company owes $5,000 in back taxes. The claim arises from the retaliatory insurance laws of the State. The company's attorney has offered to settle such part of the taxes as is not barred by the statute of limitations. The Commissioner did not threaten to revoke the company's license; he says that he seeks only to enforce the law.

The sixty-ninth annual statement of the **Westchester Fire insurance company** shows total assets on January 1 of $4,053,482, an increase during the last year of $417,011. The company's reserve for unearned premiums now aggregates $1,858,542, as compared with $1,770,315 a year ago. The Westchester has a net surplus of $1,678,127 beyond all liabilities, which is a gain of $309,525 during the year, or more than 100 per cent. on the capital. This sterling old corporation is officered by George R. Crawford, president; John Q. Underhill, vice president; M. O. Brown, secretary; John H. Kelly, assistant secretary.

The **balance sheet of the New York Life** for January 1, as certified to by Haskins & Lells, certified public accountants, shows total assets of $435,820,359. Other interesting figures are: Income of 1905, $102,630,864; loaned policyholders during 1905, $17,164,703; paid policyholders, $40,262,040; increase in assets during 1905, $45,160,100; number of policies paid for during 1905, 157,540, representing new insurance of $296,640,854; outstanding insurance at end of 1905, $2,061,593,866; increase in insurance in force during 1905, $132,000,000; decrease in expenses of 1905 over the preceding year, more than $1,000,000.

The experience of the fire insurance companies in **Chicago** indicates that **claims** are now being made **for fires** which would not be reported previously. With a liability remaining about normal, an average increase of about 100 claims a year has been made for several years past. This is attributed largely to the work of the public adjusters, two of whom in Chicago now look up every alarm reported to the fire department, and usually urge people who have had trifling losses to make claims and assist them in manufacturing evidence to put them through.

The **prosecution** of a number of **Western Union companies** before the **Michigan** Insurance Department, begun by the Continental and the Connecticut, as a result of the recent rate troubles at Bellaire, has failed. The Attorney General has reported that the act of the Union companies in retiring from the agency was not in violation of the anti-trust law, as they did not act by collusion or agreement, but changed because the agent was not giving them a fair share of his preferred business because of the high commissions paid by the non-affiliating companies.

The directors of the **Underwriters' Salvage Company of Chicago** have elected their officers and expect to be ready for business early in February. William S. Warren, of the Liverpool and London and Globe, through whose persistence the organization of the company is due, was forced to take the presidency against his will, with E. G. Halle, of the Germania Fire, as vice president; S. A. Rothermel, of the Traders, as secretary, and P. D. McGregor, of the Queen, as treasurer. Action will be taken on the managership about the middle of the month.

Fire insurance companies are being furnished with copies of the new **reduced rate three-fourths value clause,** to be used **in Indiana,** applying to frame country stores in fifth and sixth class towns. By agreement between the Indiana State Board and the Indiana League a reduction of 15 cents is to be granted for the use of this clause, provided the risks are first rated by approved schedule and charges for exposure are made. Heretofore there has been some question as to whether the three-fourths value clause would stand without a concession in rate.

Liability insurance companies are calling more generally than ever before for audits of payrolls, to determine the exact amount of their liability and uncollected premiums. The original premiums are based upon estimates of the payrolls, and audits frequently show that the payroll upon which the premium is based had been much larger than was estimated. Some of the policies are now providing that no increase is to be made in the premium demanded, unless the payroll is audited within a year, so as to insure prompt action.

The United States Circuit Court, by Judge Hazel, in New York on Monday decided against **J. Wilcox Brown,** of Maryland, complainant **against the Equitable Life** Assurance Society in a suit for the distribution of its funds. Mr. Brown was insured for $25,000 in the society. Judge Hazel says that the complainant has no legal capacity to bring a suit and no cause of action is stated in the bill. The demurrer of the society is sustained with costs and the bill is dismissed.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the **Prudential insurance company** at Newark on Monday Richard V. Linda-

bury was elected a director to take the place of Edgar B. Ward, who resigned last week. At a subsequent meeting of the board of directors the following changes were made: Forrest F. Dryden, third vice president, was chosen second vice president, and Jacob E. Ward, youngest brother of Dr. Leslie D. Ward, was made third vice president. Richard V. Lindabury was elected general counsel of the company.

The report by the officers of the Italian steamer Liguria that a **deserted ocean steamer** was riding out a heavy storm just north of the Bermuda Islands last Saturday has caused considerable speculation among marine insurance men. The captain of the Liguria did not attempt to salve the vessel, owing to the heavy sea which was running. The vessel evidently had no cargo aboard, yet it is estimated by some that the salvage on the hulk alone would have amounted to some $200,000.

The number of underwriters of the **New York Insurance Association** (Lloyds), of which Daniel Woodcock & Co. are general agents, has been increased to fifteen by the addition of the following persons: George R. Weed, retired, Brooklyn; John B. Sabine, lawyer, 181 Broadway; Wm. J. Bogert, general Eastern agent of the Chicago and Alton Railroad, 281 Broadway; Joseph Faulkner, manager of the Burr Printing House, 18 Jacob street; Ed. H. Faulkner, insurance, 19 Liberty street.

The Gans Company, which bought the salvage of the **Rocky Ford Beet Sugar Company,** is having it handled in some of the beet sugar factories in Michigan which have completed their season's run, and stands to make a handsome profit on the deal. As it was, the help of the Gans Company was all that saved the insurance companies from an even greater loss than they sustained, as they were almost helpless under the circumstances until Leopold Gans came into the settlement.

A reciprocal charge against outside brokers was one of the changes made in the bylaws of the **Indianapolis Fire Association** at a meeting Tuesday night. The same fee will be charged the outside broker writing Indianapolis business as his association would exact of the Indianapolis Association members. These officers were elected: President, John R. Welch; vice president, Fred Gregory; treasurer, Edwin Hill; executive committee, Albert Metzger, A. E. Uhl and Sol. Kiser.

The **Connecticut Fire of Hartford,** notwithstanding the complications following its withdrawal from the Western Union last April, had an unprecedentedly successful business year, and came out of 1905 with total assets of $5,813,619.36 and net surplus of $1,729,173.17, an increase, compared with 1904, of $473,482 in assets and $347,193 in net surplus. The premiums in 1905 were $100,000 more than in 1904. This tells the story quite as well as a column of descriptive history.

In his annual report, submitted Tuesday, President L. G. Fouse, of the Fidelity Mutual Life of Philadelphia, **prescribes a cure for rebating.** He says:

If the legislatures of the several States will pass laws forfeiting premiums and making void every policy of life insurance upon which a rebate is allowed, it will cure the evil. Notice of such a law should be given in red ink on the margin of every policy, made obligatory upon the company by law, so that the holder will know that unless he has actually paid the money represented by the receipt he has no insurance.

At the annual meeting of the **Hartford Board of Fire Underwriters** on Tuesday the following officers were elected for the year ensuing: President, Charles E. Chase; vice president, Charles E. Parker; secretary, stamp clerk and surveyor, F. R. Knox; treasurer, C. M. Goddard, of Boston; electrical inspector, Thomas H. Day. The reports showed that 37,200 daily reports were stamped during the past year. Each report represents a policy of insurance.

The **Woodmen's Modern Protective Association** has removed its headquarters from St. Louis to Springfield, Ill., as more convenient to W. A. Northcott, the president, who was formerly head consul of the Modern Woodmen. W. R. Edison has resigned as vice president and manager, and is succeeded by E. E. Murphy, of Leavenworth, also a prominent Woodman. Charles F. Hatfield has resigned as secretary and is succeeded by Walter A. Orr.

The **Ætna of Hartford** occupies a peculiar position at present in Chicago, due to its rigid limitation of its liability in the congested district to $3,000,000. In consequence it has been able to steadily eliminate all undesirable risks and substitute the best class of property, as much more is offered it than it is able to accept. It has now cut out nearly all stocks, and its indemnity in the congested district is nearly all on the better class of buildings.

The Illinois State Firemen's Convention, held at Peoria on Thursday, passed a resolution in opposition to **Federal insurance supervision** as follows:

Be it resolved by the firemen of Illinois, That it is the sense of this convention that we are unalterably opposed to any public measure now agitating the public mind for the Federal supervision of insurance, especially fire insurance, and we ask the members of this association, as far as possible, to communicate this united sense to the Congressmen of the respective districts of Illinois.

On January 1, 1906, the trust business heretofore carried by the Title Guaranty and Trust Company of Scranton, Pa., was transferred to the **Scranton Trust Company,** a new corporation. The Title Guaranty and Trust Company of Scranton, Pa., will continue to guarantee titles, locally, and write surety bonds throughout the United States. On or about March 1 the corporate title of the company will be the Title Guaranty and Surety Company.

The Continental Casualty Company will hereafter issue **insurance to women** between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, regularly engaged in occupations from which they derive a regular income and upon which they are dependent for support. This does not include housekeepers, domestics, persons employed at home, or agents writing on a commission basis. Insurance will be on the industrial ordinary form, with a restricted indemnity.

The **Fire Insurance Club of Chicago** is mapping out an ambitious plan for its educational course of lectures for 1906. Professor Rochlitz, of the insurance engineering department at Armour Institute, will deliver six lectures on "Chemistry in Its Relations to Fire Hazards," with experiments and demonstrations. W. J. Greer, assistant manager of the Western Department, addressed the club on "Adjusting" at the meeting January 9.

By the purchase this week of the seven story office building at No. 17 Nassau street, owned by John E. Schermerhorn, the **Equitable Life** came into possession of the entire block bounded by Broadway, Nassau, Cedar and Pine streets, estimated to be worth $20,000,000. It has taken the society thirty-five years to acquire the block. It is reported that the company contemplates building a big skyscraper on the site in the near future.

A radical departure in adjusting fire losses has been made in Cincinnati in connection with the loss of the Julian-Kokenge shoe factory. The insurance companies carrying the loss have given a Cincinnati firm an order to duplicate the factory, putting it in the exact condition it was before the fire, as regards machinery and equipment. The appraising of personal property, usually fraught with disputes, is thus done away with.

Hartford will be the headquarters of the new **Standard Fire of Connecticut,** a charter for which was granted by the last Legislature. Five-eighths of the capital of $200,000 has already been subscribed by New York capitalists, while Boston and Hartford investors will take up the rest. Business will begin in a few months. A participating business will be written, and dividends cannot be declared over 8 per cent.

The Western departments of Chicago are making a strenuous protest against the **new rule of the Chicago banks,** which went into effect January 1, requiring the payment of exchange on all outside checks. With many of the Western fire insurance departments this will involve an expense of from $2,000 to $5,000 a year, and they are joining with the Manufacturers' Association in testing the legality of the action.

The extension recently built on the Woodbridge Building at 100 William street, New York, will afford a welcome addition of floor space to the **New York Underwriters' Agency,** which will occupy the entire ninth floor. The business of the agency is large, and its growth has been so satisfactory that the 13,000 square feet of space it will have when the extension is completed will be fully utilized.

Retaliation will be inflicted **by Nebraska** on the insurance companies of States which exact taxes from Nebraska companies greater than Nebraska exacts from their companies. Thirty-five companies are affected, principally from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Illinois and Missouri. The State Auditor claims that $30,000 back taxes are due the State from these companies.

Suit has been started at Lincoln, Neb., by Mrs. Annie V. Metcalf against the **Mutual Reserve Life** to recover $3,282.67 which, she avers, is the balance between what the company owed her on her husband's policy of life insurance and what it paid her. In Baltimore John D. G. Crampton has brought suit to recover $5,000 on a policy which he claims that the company unlawfully cancelled.

By divorce a woman does not forfeit her interest in a policy on her husband's life, according to the Minnesota Supreme Court in the case of Monroe Wallace vs. the Mutual Benefit Life. The court held the policy to be a vested interest, not even affected by a contract of surrender between the two, and being the wife's separate property, whose value the husband cannot impair.

A London cable special to the *Journal of Commerce* says that the **Patriotic Assurance Company of Ireland** will hold a special general meeting on January 15, to confirm the transfer to the Sun Insurance Office of London, announced in previous cables. The Sun is to pay 72s. 6d. in cash for each Patriotic share, or give one Sun share for ten Patriotic shares, plus £23 10s. cash.

Amicus Will Not Die.—The clammy Mr. Mould, Hayville's yearning undertaker, will not yet corner that humorist. He will live in the pages of the *Vigilant,* the editorial management of which has been assumed by Mr. Charles J. Smith, who, unfettered by other ties, is making it one of the raciest and most interesting papers in insurance journaldom.

With a capital stock of $100,000 the **German-American Health and Accident** insurance company has been incorporated at Columbus, Ohio, to handle risks on health and accident cases. Headquarters will be in Cincinnati. J. H. Corbley, G. F. Osler, C. C. Archer, M. W. McIntyre and J. M. Walker are the incorporators.

"Persistent reports" in the yellows that **Superintendent Hendricks** has resigned, or is going to resign, or is going to be made to resign, etc., are pronounced ghost stories by Governor Higgins. The Governor says he has no intention of sending a special message to the Legislature suggesting a committee of investigation.

A negative opinion on the legality of issuing a license for the new **Congressional Life,** lately incorporated in Washington with a capital stock of $1, has been given by Corporation Counsel Thomas, of the District. His opinion is that the capital is insufficient to warrant the Superintendent of Insurance in issuing a license.

The **changes** at the first of the year **in Chicago** have been unusually few. None of the fire insurance companies have been letting their field men go, local agents have all done a good business and are not disposed to make changes, and a few shifts of location have been about all that have been out of the ordinary run.

The general agency firm of **Scruggs & Smith, of Dallas, Tex.,** has dissolved. Mr. Gross R. Scruggs takes the Westchester, Williamsburgh City, North River, Shawnee and Allemannia, while Mr. Samuel O. Smith has the Traders, National Union, Rochester German, Agricultural and Assurance Company of America.

The **Capital City Mutual Life of Montgomery,** Ala., has been incorporated with a capital of $10,000 and the following incorporators: Willis Brewer, M. B. Goldsmith, Harry Kahn, E. H. Manning, Edward Abraham, Albert F. Wilson, R. L. Goldsmith. Object, mutual aid relief to members and their heirs.

To the **cleaning up of rubbish in cellars** and under benches in Cincinnati buildings Captain Jack Conway, of that city's salvage corps, attributes the reduction in fires by 200 over the 1904 record. He thinks the "clean up" campaign a winner in preventing fires. It would apply elsewhere.

Formal announcement was made at a meeting of policyholders of the **Western Life Indemnity** of Chicago January 5 that the proposed reinsurance in the Security Life and Annuity of Philadelphia has been abandoned. The $200,000 paid for the stock of the Philadelphia company has been returned.

A stubborn fire destroyed sheds 1 and 2 of the **Curtis & Pope Lumber Company,** corner Massachusetts avenue and Albany streets, Boston, last Saturday night. The sheds contained valuable lumber, quartered oak and finished hard pine, and the values destroyed may reach $75,000.

The **Eureka Life** of Richmond, Va., has been incorporated with the following officers: R. L. Biddle, president, Denora, Pa.; J. W. Walker, secretary, Charleroi, Pa.; A. N. Hepler,

treasurer, Charleroi, Pa. Capital stock, maximum, $300,000; minimum, $10,000.

The extension of the business of the **Ætna Indemnity Company** has compelled the lease of one-half of the fourth floor at 68 William street, New York, in addition to the company's present quarters on the third floor. A fireproof filing room will be installed.

The examination of the accounts of the **National Mutual Fire of Omaha,** Neb., by Commissioner Pierce, of Nebraska; Host, of Wisconsin, and Assistant Hartegan, of Minnesota, has been satisfactory enough to warrant granting licenses in these three States.

A meeting of the **Lake Carriers' Association** was held Thursday and Friday at Detroit. A number of inland marine insurance men were present, and the lake situation from the underwriters' standpoint was discussed. Full reports have not yet been received.

The **National Surety Company** has written the surety bonds of Nelson Morris & Co., covering nearly 2,000 men, with a liability of $3,500,000. It has also issued the bond on the station agents of the Burlington Railroad to the amount of $4,000,000.

The accident and liability edition of *The Ætna* for December contained an illustrated article on **"The Man in Front of the Gun,"** and gives a summary of casualties from the careless handling of the weapon during the late hunting season.

The reports of the **Kansas** Insurance Department show that there are 321,537 **life insurance policyholders** in the State. As the average vote cast in Kansas is about 320,000, this indicates that there is practically one policy for every voter.

The lately organized **United Surety Company of Baltimore,** with a paid up capital of $250,000, has received a license from Superintendent of Insurance Hendricks to do a fidelity, surety and casualty business in New York State.

The National Life of the U. S. of A. announces the leading general agencies for new business in 1905 as follows: First, the Southwestern Department; second, McClintock & Smith, Peoria, Ill.; third, Cox Brothers, Alabama.

The **new life insurance company at San Francisco,** promoted by former President George A. Moore, of the Pacific Mutual Life, will have $200,000 capital and $300,000 reserve. It will write industrial insurance principally.

The **total fire losses in Kansas City,** Mo., in 1905 are estimated at $900,000. It is believed that at least 75 per cent. of this was insured, which makes a material increase in the insurance losses in that city.

Complaint is made that several **fraternal societies,** with headquarters in New York, are operating **in Missouri** without licenses from that State. Two of these confine their operations to Jewish risks.

The **North American Accident Company** of Chicago is doubling its capital stock, making it $200,000. Its premium income during 1905 was $615,000, and its assets were increased from $80,000 to $450,000.

A new fire insurance company is being organized at Austin, Tex., to be known as the **Texas National,** with a $200,000 capital and a surplus of $100,000. J. G. Hornberger, of Austin, is the promoter.

Announcement has been made to Insurance Commissioner Barry, of **Michigan,** of the **withdrawal** from that State of the Victoria of New York and the Washington Life of New York. The latter has also quit Wisconsin.

On February 1 the **Keystone Bonding Company,** being organized in Philadelphia with a $500,000 capital and a surplus of $250,000, expects to begin business.

The **Ohio Valley Bit Works,** at Maysville, Ky., heretofore written by the Manufacturers' Mutuals, has been regained by the stock companies.

Nashville's fire losses in 1905, including the suburbs, exceed $1,400,000. In June the losses were $525,000, July $300,000 and April $226,000.

The **Law Union and Crown of London** has withdrawn from Maryland.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

American Fire and Spring Garden of Philadelphia: A. F. Miller, of Belleville, Ill., agent for southern Illinois.

Columbian National Life: George H. Luther, State agent for Wisconsin, with headquarters at Milwaukee.

Continental of New York: Gilbert Weldon, late special agent for Georgia of the German of Freeport, special agent for Virginia, with headquarters at Norfolk.

Fireman's Fund: M. B. Russell, special agent for Kentucky and Tennessee.

General Accident of Philadelphia: William E. Barton, late of the Travelers, State agent for Indiana.

Georgia Home: Percy Putnam, former special agent for the Phenix of Brooklyn, special agent, with headquarters at Atlanta, Ga.

Jefferson of Philadelphia: R. Gordon Williams, general agent for Maryland.

London and Lancashire and Orient: Josef Givernaud, transferred from the New England special agency to that of eastern New England, with headquarters at Boston; Eugene J. Sullivan, assistant special agent of same department; Henry W. Gray, Jr., special agent for the western department of New England, with headquarters at Hartford.

Metropolitan: John L. Lennon, superintendent at Shenandoah, Pa., succeeding John Harle, tranferred to West Philadelphia.

National Lumber of Buffalo: Case, Lyman & Herrick, of Chicago, general agents for Illinois.

Phœnix of Hartford: Charles J. Hedwall & Co., Minneapolis, Minn.

Security of New Haven: J. G. Hilliard, agent for New York city.

Prof. J. W. Glover, who is in charge of the insurance department at the University of Michigan, attended the meeting of the Chicago section of the American Mathematical Society at the University of Chicago, and read a paper on "The Teaching of Actuarial Theory in Universities and Colleges." The discussion developed a great increase in interest in such courses, and many other institutions are thinking of adding them soon.

Mr. Burton B. Bales, superintendent of agencies of the Western Life Indemnity Company of Chicago, has resigned to become secretary of the Security Life and Annuity Company of Philadelphia. The controlling interest in the stock of the latter company, which had been sold to E. I. Rosenfeld, manager of the Western Life Indemnity Company, has been purchased by his friends and the money refunded to the Western Life.

Mr. Joseph E. Callender, Chicago general agent for the Ocean Accident Company, has made a new contract for the personal accident department. The general agency will hereafter handle all claims, and he has taken the personal accident department for the entire State of Illinois. J. F. Held has been appointed manager of the accident department.

Mr. Everett U. Crosby, for the past six years general agent of the North British and Mercantile insurance company, in charge of its improved risk department, will leave that company the latter part of this month to become a member of the local agency and brokerage firm of Henry W. Brown & Co., of Philadelphia.

Mr. W. L. Hathaway, of Portland, manager for Oregon of the Mutual Life of New York, has been transferred to San Francisco, Cal., where his

field will include the States of California, Nevada and the Hawaiian Islands. Mr. Alma D. Katz, of Boisé, took the Oregon field January 1.

Mr. Stanley B. Tyler, a sub-auditor of the Mutual Life, for over twenty years in the service of the company, died January 10 in Roosevelt Hospital from injuries received December 30. In leaving the elevator in the Murray Hill Baths Mr. Tyler slipped and fell, fracturing his skull.

Mr. F. F. Richards, an inspector for the Chicago Underwriters' Association, goes with the Ohio Inspection Bureau at Columbus January 15. George A. Feindt, formerly with the Insurance Survey Bureau, has also been employed by the Ohio Inspection Bureau.

Mr. George F. Whitlock, who resigned as manager of the Prudential at Cincinnati to organize a new life insurance company, has abandoned that project and has associated himself with the Columbian National Life in Cincinnati, in charge of the local field.

Dr. Henry W. Cook, of Baltimore, succeeded Dr. Charles A. McCollom as medical director of the Northwestern National Life of Minneapolis on January 1. Mr. David F. Witler at that time retired from the management of the loan department.

Mr. William S. Manning, of Albany, the "rantankerous friend" of Senator Depew, has been taken to a sanitarium as a result of the excitement he passed through in the recent insurance investigation. A few weeks' rest is expected to effect a cure.

Police Commissioner Theodore A. Bingham of New York has the National Surety Company on his bond for $100,000. The bond is issued to the city, and is given because the police commissioner is custodian of the police pension fund.

Mr. R. H. Garrigue, former Western manager of the Merchants of Newark, has become agent for several fire insurance companies at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Pacific Coast department management of C. J. Scovel, of San Francisco.

Mr. R. J. Mahony, for twenty-three years connected with the Western of Toronto, has been elected second vice president of the New Brunswick Fire, and will be in charge of the underwriting department.

Mr. A. P. Ross has resigned as secretary and treasurer of the Ohio Association of Fire Insurance Agents to accept a special agency of the Western Reserve insurance company of Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Robert Wray, for twenty-one years Pittsburgh, Pa., general agent of the Metropolitan until his retirement five years ago, died there January 1, aged eighty-one years, after a two weeks' illness.

Mr. John W. Diefendorf, former general agent at Peoria, Ill., for the New York Life and a retired Methodist minister, died at Los Angeles, Cal., of pneumonia January 2, after a three days' illness.

Mr. J. W. Skinner, second vice president of the Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee, on December 26 celebrated the fortieth anniversary of his entering the service of the company as a clerk.

Mr. R. F. Woltersdorf, an examiner for the Western department for the Sun of London, has been appointed assistant special agent to J. M. Holton of the Sun in Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin.

Mr. E. D. Morgan, former manager of the Ohio farm department of the Home Fire of New York, has been appointed Ohio special agent of the Northwestern National Fire insurance company.

Mr. R. G. Tennant, of Chicago, has been authorized to write direct for the Dutch Underwriters, using the New York standard form, instead of the peculiar form previously issued by them.

Mr. Charles W. Fracker, of Des Moines, a veteran agent of the Springfield Fire and Marine, now in his seventy-fifth year, has been given an annuity for life by retiring him on full pay.

Mr. L. Walter Clark, for twenty-five years assistant secretary of the Connecticut Fire, has resigned on account of ill health, being succeeded by Mr. W. T. Howe, second assistant secretary.

Messrs. John Kerr Branch and William J. Matheson have been elected directors of the Continental insurance company, succeeding James H. Hyde and W. J. Macintyre.

Mr. Burton B. Bales has become secretary of the Security Life and Annuity, having resigned the superintendency of agencies for the Western Life Indemnity Company.

President Charles A. Shaw of the Hanover Fire has denied the rumor that he would retire from the presidency to devote his whole time to the Board of Water Supply.

Mr. George H. Luther, manager of the Grand Rapids office of the Columbian National Life, has been made State agent for Wisconsin, with headquarters at Milwaukee.

Mr. George B. Shepperd, private stenographer to Governor Higgins, has resigned to become private secretary to President John R. Hegeman of the Metropolitan Life.

Mr. Charles J. Edwards, Brooklyn manager of the Equitable, was banqueted Tuesday evening at the Hotel Astor by the company's representatives in his district.

Mr. Charles W. Jenne has closed his connection with the Bankers Life of Des Moines to become the vice president of the Safety Fund Life of Minneapolis.

Mr. J. H. Clinton has become special agent for Ohio and Michigan of the Girard of Philadelphia, having resigned as the representative of the Calumet Fire.

Mr. James Wyper, secretary of the Orient of Hartford, has been appointed agency secretary at Hartford of the London and Lancashire, the allied company.

Mr. Francis R. Cooley, a Hartford, Conn., banker, has been elected a director of the Connecticut Fire, succeeding Dr. Henry P. Stearns, deceased.

Insurance Commissioner Prewitt of Kentucky has gone to Milwaukee to take depositions in the case of the Commonwealth of Kentucky against the Northwestern Mutual Life to collect $8,000 in back taxes on life premiums.

President Orr of the New York Life will attend the annual convention of the Nylic Association at Lakewood Hotel on January 16.

Mr. James Hazen Hyde declined re-election as vice president of the Equitable Trust Company at the annual meeting this week.

Mr. G. Lee has been elected second vice president and Mr. William P. Mann secretary of the Sun of New Orleans.

Mr. Harry C. Sawyer, a Pittsburgh, Pa., insurance agent, has been nominated for mayor on the Prohibition ticket.

Mr. Fred W. Newport has been appointed superintendent of agencies of the Pacific-Conservative Life.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

The following are the recommendations regarding insurance legislation made by Governor Cummins to the Legislature of Iowa:

This State long ago adopted the policy of requiring all its own life insurance companies doing business upon the "legal reserve" plan to deposit securities with the State Auditor in an amount not less than the legal reserve, for the protection of policyholders. It cannot be doubted that this is a wise system. We have seen that the possession of great volumes of securities which can be changed, manipulated, and used for individual profit and ulterior purposes, presents a temptation that most men cannot resist, and constitutes a menace that ought not to be perpetuated. I believe, therefore, that from this time forward all "old line" life insurance companies organized under the laws of other States and desiring to carry on business in the State of Iowa should be required to deposit with the State Auditor securities equal in amount to the legal reserve upon the policies issued upon lives in this State, for the protection of such policyholders, the deposits to continue until the State in which the company is organized shall require a deposit of the entire legal reserve with some State officer, at which time our auditor should transfer the securities so placed with him to the officer of the State in which the company is organized. If a few States would adopt this plan, it would result in every State having insurance companies requiring the deposit. I earnestly recommend to you a careful investigation of this phase of the general subject.

Another grave defect in the methods of life insurance developed by the recent study of the subject is the accumulation of a so called surplus, which, in great measure at least, represents deferred dividends; that is to say, the sum which the company, in a vague way, promises to distribute at a future time to its policyholders, but concerning which there is no specific agreement fixing the amount of the distribution. The surplus so existing is not reckoned as a liability, for the reason that no policy, so far as I have been able to ascertain, contains any more positive assurance of distribution than that the policyholder shall be entitled to such share of the surplus as the directors of the company may determine. The whole scheme of deferred dividends has a tendency to lead the business away from the field of indemnity into the field of investment—a tendency which is altogether too prominent, and which should be checked by such reasonable regulations as can be prescribed without injuring the legitimate enterprise of insurance; but there is a still more potent objection to the practice.

As is well known, the premium charged by a legal reserve company is made up of two parts: First, mortality; second, the loading for expense. The actual mortality is considerably less than the theoretical mortality, and it might happen that the share allotted to expense is not altogether consumed. From these overcharges in the premium, together with a portion of the interest earned, the surplus is created, and the general promise is to return this surplus to the policyholder in the form of dividends. I am speaking now of a mutual company, although it is likewise true of a company having capital stock, with the one exception of the diminution in the earnings caused by whatever claim the capital stock may have upon them. No company can safely make any definite promise with respect to the surplus so acquired, for the obvious reason that its extent must always be uncertain. One of the issues in the insurance business at the present time, therefore, is, shall this surplus be ascertained and apportioned and disposed of in some manner at short intervals, or shall it be

allowed to accumulate during long periods, and then be paid to the policyholders in such proportions as the board of directors of the company may think best? It seems to me that every consideration of safety and fair dealing requires that the surplus to be credited or paid to participating policyholders shall be ascertained and paid, or otherwise disposed of, every year. In so saying I do not mean, necessarily, that the first or second years of a policy shall be so treated, because the expense of getting the business, with the mortality, quite consumes the premium for those years. If the dividends are deferred for a long period, the policyholder is absolutely at the mercy of the company. Even if he could override by a judicial proceeding the discretion of the board of directors in apportioning the surplus then due him (and the courts have decided that he cannot), the cost of procuring the proof necessary to establish his rights would far exceed any benefit that he could derive from the litigation. If, however, the law imposes upon the company an imperative obligation to ascertain and apportion the amount of the surplus due to each participating policyholder at the end of each year, then the natural forces of competition between companies, together with the option on the part of the policyholder to surrender his policy if the dividend be not fair and satisfactory, will protect the policyholder from any serious wrong.

I therefore recommend that the law be so strengthened as to require an annual accounting between each company and its policyholders so that at the close of each year the policyholders will be notified of their respective shares in the surplus of the preceding year. The amendment should also provide for the options which at that time may be exercised by the policyholder, namely, to withdraw the dividend in cash, or to use it for the purpose of purchasing further insurance. In so recommending it must not be understood that I advocate the distribution, annually, of the entire surplus. It would be unwise to insist that the assets of the company shall at all times be no more than its liabilities. There must be a margin of safety to cover unexpected and extraordinary conditions. There are widely differing opinions with respect to the amount or percentage that should be reserved as the margin of safety, and this divergence of judgment can only be adjusted by your common sense, to which I confidently submit the whole controversy.

It is believed by many thoughtful men that there should be a limit to the aggregate amount of insurance which a company should have outstanding; or, in other words, that the amount of a risk should be restricted to some large, but reasonable, sum. I have not been able to reach a satisfactory conclusion upon this subject and therefore make no recommendation upon it. It is, however, so important—indeed, so fundamental—that I comply with many requests, and invoke for it your careful consideration.

This State has, with great wisdom, pursued the policy of narrowly restricting the manner in which the legal reserve of a company may be invested. It is to be hoped that an enlightened conservatism will always control this essential feature of supervision. I believe, however, that the time has come to enlarge the field of investment. In harmony with the plan already adopted, life insurance companies should be permitted to invest in drainage bonds, and in such securities as paving, curbing, sewering or other public improvement certificates. These securities are as safe as municipal bonds, and inasmuch as the opportunities to loan money on real estate will gradually become less, you ought to open such other remunerative fields as are without danger. I believe, also, that every life insurance company organized under the laws of this State should be permitted to invest a reasonable sum (to be fixed by the executive council, but not exceeding 10 per cent. of its legal reserve) in a home office; and that, upon a transfer of the title to such office in trust to the auditor, its value, as determined by the proper authority, should be reckoned a part of its deposit with the auditor. The course I have suggested will not only insure safety in the investment of assets, but will have a tendency to keep the money of our people at home and to build up the State.

The Governor here calls atention to the restrictions upon loaning which the law places on local life insurance companies, and recommends larger latitude. In conclusion he says:

The last suggestion that I have to make with respect to life insurance is not the least important, but I have given it this place because I do not expect—indeed I do not recommend—action upon it by this General Assembly. It involves an extent of study and investigation that will probably preclude you, even if it should meet your approval, from disposing of it at this time.

There is more fraud and deception, sometimes intentional and sometimes unintentional, practiced upon policyholders by reason of the variety in the forms of life insurance contracts than in any other way. There are hundreds of these forms, differing oftentimes but slightly from each other, and these differences are, in my opinion, in many instances created for no other purpose than to enable the agent to found upon them an argument, the fallacy of which cannot be detected by the unskilled mind, and the effect of which is to create an atmosphere of mystery about the entire life insurance business. There are but few kinds of legitimate life insurance contracts. You can certainly number them on the fingers of your two hands. There is no sense in the almost infinite multiplicity of forms. I believe that there should be standard forms of policies. They should be uniform with all companies. They should be plain, simple and direct. The obligations should be easily understood. If we had such uniformity the people would soon come to know what insurance is, and what the insurance companies agree to do in each of the several forms of contract issued. I believe that it is your duty to institute such an investigation and to collect such information as will enable a subsequent General Assembly to deal intelligently with this vital phase of the business.

I believe that Section 1,709 and Section 1,710, as found in the code supplement, should be amended. Under the construction which has been properly put upon them the right to insure against casualty to plate glass is restricted to companies operating under Subdivision 1 of Section 1,709, and companies operating under Subdivision 5 of that section are prohibited from doing that kind of business.

I cannot think that this was the intent of the General Assembly, for the result is to eliminate competition and to make the rates upon plate glass insurance indefensibly high.

Subdivision 6 of Section 1,709 created a practical monopoly in the insurance of steam boilers in one company. We have experienced the natural outcome of this condition. I find upon comparison that the rates prevalent in Iowa for the insurance of steam boilers are very much higher than the rates charged by good companies in adjoining States. I can perceive no reason why companies operating under Subdivision 5 of Section 1,709 should not insure against boiler explosions, and I feel sure that were the statute so amended it would be for the advantage of our people.

Des Moines, Ia., January 9.—A concurrent resolution providing for a committee to conduct a rigid investigation into the affairs of Iowa life insurance companies was introduced in the Senate this morning by Senator Molsberry. The proposed committee and its powers are identical with those of the New York Legislative Committee.

Des Moines, Ia., January 10.—Mr. Cummings today introduced House Bill No. 5, to amend insurance laws other than life to prevent alleged monopoly of steam boiler and plate glass insurance.

Mr. Warren introduced Senate Bill No. 13, to create a legislative investigating committee to examine into the subject of all insurance companies doing business in Iowa, revise the insurance laws and provide a uniform standard policy for life and fire insurance and for other purposes, and report their findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

Des Moines, Ia., January 11.—Mr. Sankey today introduced a valued policy bill in the House.

Kentucky.

Frankfort, Ky., January 4.—Senate Bill No. 4, introduced today by Mr. George, provides that every legal reserve life insurance company conducted on the mutual plan, in which the policyholders share in the profits or surplus, shall make an apportionment and accounting of the surplus to each policyholder on or before the third anniversary of the policy, and annually thereafter; also for the purpose of determining each policyholder's share in the annual divisible surplus "contribution plan," as shall be applied to ascertain how much each policyholder has contributed to such surplus and corresponding share apportioned.

2. Companies shall not retain for "contingent surplus" more than 80 per cent. of the statutory reserve liability, and in no case shall it exceed $10,000,000.

3. The divisible surplus shall be ascertained and accounted annually, and carried as a surplus.

4. Provides for options after the third year.

5. Regulates deferred dividend policies in force, and prohibits further issue of deferred dividend contracts.

6. Confers on the Commissioner power to revoke licenses.

FRANKFORT, Ky., January 10.—The bill by Mr. Watson, for investigation of fires, provides as follows:

Any expenses, including counsel, expenses of deputy, detectives and officers, incurred by the Insurance Commissioner in the performance of the duties imposed upon him by the provisions of this act shall be defrayed by the fire insurance companies doing business in this State, and a tax of one-third of 1 per centum on the gross premiums receipts of all such companies is hereby levied for this purpose, to be collected by said Insurance Commissioner as other taxes on insurance companies are collected. The Insurance Commissioner shall keep a separate account of all moneys received and disbursed under the provisions of this act, and shall include same in his annual report.

The following insurance bills were presented today:

Senate Bill No. 54, by Mr. Linn, an act limiting the salaries of the executive officers of life insurance companies doing business in Kentucky to $50,000 per annum; House Bill No. 123, by Mr. Cox, requires all legal reserve life insurance companies doing business in Kentucky to invest 80 per cent. of the total reserve on all outstanding policies hereafter issued upon lives in the State of Kentucky in securities issued under and by virtue of the laws of the State, shall be in mortgages on improved real estate within the State. The investments shall be of the kind and character in which life insurance companies are authorized to invest under the laws of the State. House Bill No. 125, by Mr. Clay, requires an annual accounting of surplus of life insurance companies; House Bill No. 26, by Mr. Stewart, amends Section 4232 of the Kentucky Statutes extending jurisdiction in insurance cases pertaining to reports and taxes of companies.

Maryland.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., January 10.—Mr. Lehmayer, of the city delegation, has prepared for introduction a bill to prohibit any life insurance company doing business in this State from issuing any policy participating in profits or surplus under which the accounting, apportionment and distribution of surplus to the policyholder shall be delayed for a longer period than five years.

The object of the bill is to require an accounting to each policyholder regarding the surplus of the insuring company. The system which Mr. Lehmayer's bill seeks to introduce here now prevails in Prussia.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., January 6.—The Insurance Committee consists of Senators Parker of Hampden, Kyle of Plymouth and Walker of Essex, and Representatives Seward of Watertown, Bearse of Springfield, Ferber of Boston, Long of Cambridge, Gatineau of Southbridge, Doyle of New Bedford, Dean of Wakefield and O'Brien of Worcester.

Fordis C. Parker of Springfield, Republican, was born January 3, 1868; educated in the Springfield High School; member of the Springfield Board of Fire Underwriters; in the House 1901 to 1904, inclusive, and Senate 1905. Is new on this committee.

William S. Kyle of Plymouth, Republican, was born in 1852; educated in public and private schools; manufacturer of electrical wires; in the House 1898, 1899 and 1900, and in Senate in 1905. Is new on this committee.

James H. Walker of Amesbury, Republican, was born August 24, 1872; educated at a commercial college; is a carriage manufacturer; in the Senate last year. Is new on this committee.

Henry W. Seward of Watertown, Republican, was born July 18, 1865; educated in the public schools; is in the insurance business; in the House in 1903, 1904 and 1905. Was House chairman of this committee last year.

Fred A. Bearse, Republican, was born in Springfield February 15, 1871; is a life insurance agent; was in the House for the last five years and has served before on this committee.

J. Bernard Ferber, of Boston, Republican, was born May 28, 1876; educated in public and private schools; is a lawyer; in the House last year. Is new on this committee.

George W. Long, Republican, was born July 28, 1872; educated in the public schools; is an undertaker. This is his first year in the Legislature.

Felix Gatineau, Republican, was born November 12, 1857; educated in the public schools; is a fire insurance agent. New in Legislature.

Andrew P. Doyle, Republican, was born August 15, 1869; educated in the public schools; is an insurance agent. Is new to the State House.

Charles A. Dean, Democrat; educated in the public schools; has held many public offices; member of House from 1898 to 1903 inclusive. New on this committee.

Edward H. O'Brien, Democrat, was born February 1, 1874; graduated from the Holy Cross College in 1897; member of the House in 1904 and 1905. Clerk of the Insurance Committee last year.

BOSTON, Mass., January 9.—In the House a petiton was presented from Mr. Winslow that the lists of policyholders of life insurance companies shall be open to inspection.

On Thursday Mr. Dever introduced House Bill No. 72, providing for the distribution of life insurance dividends. The first dividend period of all participating policies shall terminate at the expiration of two years from date of issue of such policies, and each thereafter shall constitute a dividend period until the policy is terminated by death or maturity. If the insured should surrender his policy at the end of three years or at the end of any year thereafter, a paid up policy participating in the surplus shall be issued.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 11.—Mr. Tompkins today introduced House Bill No. 81, repealing Section 7, Article 1, which provides that the Superintendent of Insurance may collect from insurance companies actual disbursements incident to examinations.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 11.—Senator Brackett, of Saratoga, and his colleague, Assemblyman Whitney, have thus far had a monopoly of the introduction of insurance bills, save for one put in by Assemblyman Tompkins, of New York city, to lop off from the Insurance Department the moneys collected by the superintendent to meet the actual disbursements incident to examinations. It is probable that the legislators generally will restrain themselves from offering wholesale lots of insurance measures this winter, in the knowledge that much if not all of the important legislation on this subject will emanate from and be controlled by the joint legislative investigating committees of the two houses.

The composition of the Assembly Insurance Committee is regarded as indicative that "strike" legislation will be accorded short shrift by that body. The Senate Insurance Committee, with the exception of the addition of Senator Smith of Columbia, as the successor of the late Senator Ambler, remains unchanged, save that Senator McEwan of Albany goes to the head of the committee as its chairman.

The Assembly committee is as follows: Messrs. Rogers of Broome, chairman; Cox of Erie, Wemple of Schenectady, Prentice of New York, Wainwright of Westchester, Hooper of Essex, Murphy of Kings, Draper of Niagara, Steffens of New York,

Wells of New York, Smith of New York, Salomon of New York, and Long of New York.

The bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. Brackett and in the Assembly by Mr. G. H. Whitney to amend Chapter 690 of the Laws of 1892, known as the insurance law, provides as follows:

For the election of a State Superintendent of Insurance in 1906 by the people, to serve five years, at $7,000 per annum.

Prohibits participation in syndicate operations in connection with life insurance companies by officers and employees thereof.

Constitutes misrepresentation by an officer of a company in any statement or report to the Insurance Department a felony punishable by imprisonment in the State prison.

Prohibits the insurance of a life of any person of thirteen years of age or under.

Abolishes deferred dividends and provides for annual dividend distributions.

Provides for notice to all policyholders of mutual life insurance companies of annual meeting thirty days in advance, and prohibits the giving of voting proxies to any officer or other employee of a company.

Makes the term of office of every director of a life insurance company expire annually.

Opens the lists of policyholders of all life insurance companies to inspection.

Makes the salaries voted to officers of companies subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Insurance, and dissolves a company on suit by the Attorney General which violates this provision of law.

Practically annuls waivers in life insurance policies.

Makes it unlawful for any industrial life insurance company to issue any policy on a plan of payments of premiums therefor oftener than once in three months.

Ohio.

The following references to insurance were made by Governor John M. Pattison in his inaugural address to the Legislature last Monday:

The Ohio Insurance Department was organized in the year 1872 for the purpose of protecting the interests of citizens who carry insurance. It has proven to be one of the best of the various State departments. When the original law which created the Insurance Department was enacted it was perhaps not surpassed by that of any other State. At that time it was evidently the intention of the General Assembly to make the Insurance Department only self sustaining; that is, funds of the policyholders of only a sufficient amount to defray all the expenses of this department were to be paid to the State in the way of fees. From time to time the policy of the State in this respect has changed, and from a department for the protection of the insured it has become also one of revenue, so that now nearly $1,000,000 of the policyholders' money is being paid annually to the State, while the annual expenses of the department are less than $50,000. It is for the General Assembly and the people to determine whether it is just to continue the present policy of making this department one of revenue by taking from the policyholders more than is sufficient to pay its expenses. Life insurance should first be made absolutely safe for the policyholders and then it should be secured at the lowest cost possible. The laws of Ohio pertaining to insurance and for the security of the policyholders are among the best of those of all the States, but if they can be made better and stronger and the interests of the policyholders can be more strongly safeguarded, proper changes or amendments should have your early consideration.

There has never been any effort to tax payments made by the many fraternal organizations of the State, and I am sure no such effort to this end will be made by this General Assembly, and I hope by no other.

President Roosevelt's efforts for national supervision of insurance should have your approval—such national supervision as will surround the policyholder with additional safeguards and lessen the cost of his insurance.

I have not had time to go into any details in reference to fire and other forms of insurance. Permit me to say that these interests are very great and very important in Ohio, and should have your careful and considerate attention. Upon this subject I may take the liberty of sending you a special message.

It is understood that the Republican members of the Legislature will urge an investigation of life insurance companies, domestic and other State, and try to get Mr. Hughes of New York as chief inquisitor. The movement is regarded as a political knock at Governor Pattison, who is president of the Union Central Life.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, January 11.—Mr. Patterson introduced today Senate Bill No. 21, providing that the liability of fidelity companies on bonds shall not be affected by misrepresentation of the person bonded.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, January 11.—The following is the composition of the insurance committees of both Houses: Senate—P. W. Ward, chairman, insurance agent at Cleveland; John W. Harper, B. F. Guyman, O. F. Hypes, Samuel H. West, D. W. Crist, Charles Lawyer, John C. Drake and Richard A. Beatty. House—Earl Stewart, chairman; John W. Pears, R. H. Minter, F. W. Vandusen, C. V. Trott, H. J. Ritter, W. G. Frizell, W. W. Ackley and C. F. Smith.

Rhode Island.

Governor Utter, referring in his message to life insurance, said:

During the last few months public attention has been drawn to the business methods of certain life insurance companies, which have solicited and are still soliciting business in this State. The investigation which has brought to light these methods has apparently been thorough and without prejudice. As a result of the revelations made and of the suspicion aroused, there is throughout the country a growing belief that legislative action should be taken to protect the interests of policyholders. While I would not approve or oppose any such legislation before knowing its exact and full import, I would warn at this time against hasty action on a matter of such great importance. The opinion here expressed is in agreement with that of our own insurance commissioner. At the present time the conditions are not sufficiently understood to warrant the making of extensive changes in our insurance laws.

Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., January 9.—One of the first bills that will be offered when the Legislature convenes will be by Mr. Pullen and is aimed at "wildcat" companies. It provides that before a certificate is issued for the purpose of forming an insurance company, other than mutual fire, a bond for $10,000 must be filed, conditional that the company will deposit the amount of bonds required under the insurance code of the State.

The Wharton anti-compact law, which was enacted in 1898, and repealed in 1902, is the subject of a new bill which was introduced in the Legislature this week.

Miscellany.

New England Insurance Exchange.

The annual meeting of the New England Insurance Exchange took place at its headquarters in Boston last Saturday morning, and was well attended. The election of officers for the year resulted as follows: Cayle T. Forbush, president; J. J. Cornish, J. L. Liecty, A. L. Berry, vice presidents; executive committee, W. H. Boutell, K. S. Ducayet, F. H. Bat-

SPECIAL NOTICES

WANTED.

A capable life insurance man as assistant manager for Greater New York. State experience. Reference required. Communications confidential. Address XX, THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William street, New York City.

tilana, E. H. Hildreth, C. E. North; C. M. Goddard, secretary and treasurer.

The executive committee for the past year reported as follows in part:

In the year just closed your committee has endeavored to bear in mind, as in 1904, that it did not seem necessary to look for new subjects to legislate upon, but has presented to your consideration only what developments and actual necessities forced upon us. A new fur hat factory schedule and a new straw hat factory schedule have been adopted for use by the scehduled risks committee. For some years the necessity of a wide difference between the flat and 80 per cent. rates on fireproof buildings has been growing more apparent by reason of the larger number of such buildings being constructed. A new rule was adopted, by which the local committee, with the approval of the executive committee, are making such rates on this class as desired. About half a dozen of this class have been rated under this rule, and the results seemed to be satisfactory. A new form of permit for storage and use of gasoline in specifically rated automobile risks has been adopted, and the form and rate for floating policies on automobiles has, at the request of companies inclined to write the class, been rescinded. The matter of extension of the stamping systems for the State of Maine has been taken up, and as the result of the discussion it is probable that arrangements will be made whereby considerable additional territory will be covered by stamping offices in that State already in operation, and possibly one additional stamping office will be established. In this connection it will undoubtedly be of much interest to the members to know that a careful compilation by three of our most important stamping offices has demonstrated the fact that such offices are more than self supporting, inasmuch as the errors corrected more than equal the total expenses connected with the office. These calculations in each case having been based on virtually a year's time must be taken as conclusive, and an answer to at least one of the arguments sometimes advanced against stamping offices in general.

The Exchange declined to adopt the recommendation of the factory improvement committee allowing term policies on sprinklered buildings which could be written for a term of years under the general term policy rules if unsprinklered. The recommendations of the executive committee in regard to policy form and rate for rental insurance and in regard to the creation of a new committee for a portion of Worcester County were not adopted. Your committee believe that the passage of the recommendation regarding rents would have made it possible to write a large amount of this class where present custom virtually prohibits it. The necessity of some legislation on this subject has been emphasized several times since by requests from various sources for rulings as to the rate for rental insurance. The Exchange declined to adopt a proposed schedule for rating ice houses; also declined on recommendation of the executive committee to take up the matter of common carriers' insurance. A new short rate table was adopted and promulgated in all tariffs. As a later result, this table was rescinded and the old one will again be promulgated. A uniform minimum rate for lumber piled in the open, with and without certain guarantees, was adopted late in the year and will soon be promulgated in all tariffs. Twenty-two tariffs have been printed and distributed, the largest number ever gone out in any one year, and one tariff is in type and almost ready for distribution. Three tariffs have been handed in to the secretary and are in process of printing; three others are being surveyed by the inspectors, and copy will probably be ready before very long.

Mr. Charles D. Palmer, for the past two years president of the Exchange, prior to relinquishing that office made a brief address, in which he said:

The past year has not been as eventful as some other years. No emergencies have arisen which taxed the judgment and energy of the Exchange. No conflagrations have occurred in New England, causing us to take hasty action by immediately raising rates, thus trying to recover the losses in a short time, and at the same time arousing the resentment and active hostility of the insuring public. Adverse bills were introduced in the Legislatures of several States, but owing to the opposition of members who were also insurance agents and of other members (whose number is increasing every year) who are broad minded and without prejudice against insurance companies, all such bills were defeated.

It is the conservative action and spirit of the Exchange, as well as the energy and intelligence of its members, which have built up its reputation and influence and caused it to be respected by such of the insuring public as has a comparatively good knowledge of its work and aim.

Less general legislation than usual was introduced by the executive committee. Most of the measures met with approval by the members; a few were disapproved; one in particular had a checkered career, and at last went down with colors flying and still maintaining its opinion.

The outgoing administration regrets that the new short rate table did not meet with the approval of a majority of the companies. It is convinced that the new table is equitable and correct in principle. At the same time, it recognizes that the Exchange is supported by the companies, and that their opinions must prevail. The Exchange since its organization has had so little cause to complain of the exercise by the companies of their acknowledged power of influencing legislation that their wishes should and do receive respect and consideration. The question was complicated and the Exchange embarrassed by the action of another insurance organization, and the embarrassment will continue until concurrent action is taken by that body. Nevertheless, I think it can be truthfully said that the individual judgment of a majority of the members favored the new short rate table.

CHARLES F. MITCHELL,
INSURANCE,
56-58 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.
Manager Eastern Department, Metropolitan Department
STAR FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
LOUISVILLE, KY.
Correspondence with Agents and Brokers solicited.

The Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation
(LIMITED),
OF LONDON, ENGLAND.
Total Available Resources, $6,816,020.00
$1,971,756.98 deposited in the United States for the benefit of United States Policyholders.
SAMUEL APPLETON, United States Manager,
Employers' Liability Building, 33 Broad Street, Boston, Mass.
EDMUND DWIGHT,
Resident Manager for New York State,
76 William Street, New York.

1860 46th year 1906
HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
OF NEW YORK.
GEORGE E. IDE, President
Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41
(Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)
Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends) . $1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund..... 225,000.00
Net Surplus..... 1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force..... 79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.
Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

THE HOME INSURANCE CO.

Office: No. 56 CEDAR STREET, NEW YORK.

ONE HUNDRED-AND-FIFTH SEMI-ANNUAL STATEMENT.

JANUARY, 1906.

SUMMARY OF ASSETS.

	Par Value.	Market Value.
Cash in Banks and Trust Companies.	.....	$1,180,287.05
Real Estate	.....	1,543,892.06
United States Bonds	$1,600,000	1,960,000.00
State and City Bonds	3,445,050	3,427,550.00
Railroad Bonds	2,709,000	2,773,180.00
Miscellaneous Bonds	450,000	394,500.00
Railroad Stocks	5,278,500	7,953,725.00
Miscellaneous Stocks	330,000	511,000.00
Bank and Trust Co. Stocks	115,000	391,750.00
Bonds and Mortgages, being first lien on Real Estate	.....	109,500.00
Premiums uncollected and in hands of Agents	.....	993,668.77
		$21,239,052.88

LIABILITIES.

Cash Capital	$3,000,000.00
Reserve Premium Fund	7,598,001.00
Reserve for Losses	783,047.08
Reserve for Reinsurance and other claims	837,503.46
Reserve for Taxes and other contingencies	300,000.00
Surplus over contingencies and all liabilities, including capital	8,720,501.34
	$21,239,052.88

Surplus as regards policyholders, - - $11,720,501.34

DIRECTORS.

Levi P. Morton, Cornelius N. Bliss, John H. Washburn, Elbridge G. Snow, George H. Hartford, Henry F. Noyes, Lucien C. Warner, Dumont Clarke, James B. Van Woert, John Claflin, Cord Meyer, Levi C. Weir, John H. Flagler, Emanuel H. A. Correa, Samuel D. Styles.

ELBRIDGE G. SNOW, President.

EMANUEL H. A. CORREA, Vice President. AREUNAH M. BURTIS, Secretary.

FREDERIC C. BUSWELL, Vice President. HENRY J. FERRIS, Ass't Secretary.

CLARENCE A. LUDLUM, Ass't Secretary.

New York, January 9, 1906.

ESTABLISHED 1837

Westchester Fire Insurance Company

100 William Street, New York.

69th Annual Statement to Stockholders, January 1st, 1906.

CAPITAL STOCK—Paid in, $300,000.00.

ASSETS.	Par Value.	Market Value.
Real Estate		$29,676.25
Bonds and Mortgages, 1st liens		241,785.00
New York City Bonds	$300,000.00	300,000.00
Georgia State Bonds	10,000.00	10,000.00
Portland, Ore., City Bonds	50,000.00	57,000.00
Richmond, Va., City Bonds	16,000.00	16,000.00
New York & Harlem R. R. Stock	70,000.00	280,000.00
Rensselaer & Saratoga R. R. Stock	90,000.00	186,000.00
Albany & Susquehanna R. R. Stock	40,000.00	96,000.00
New York, Lackawanna & Western R. R. Stock.	90,000.00	120,000.00
Rome, Watertown & Ogdensburg R. R. Stock	50,000.00	65,000.00
Syracuse, Binghamton & N. Y. R. R. Stock	50,000.00	100,000.00
Oswego & Syracuse R. R. Stock	40,000.00	93,000.00
Chicago, Mil. & St. Paul., Com., R. R. Stock	100,000.00	181,500.00
Manhattan R. R. Stock	150,000.00	243,000.00
Southern, Pref., R. R. Stock	100,000.00	100,000.00
Chicago & Northwestern, Com., R. R. Stock	100,000.00	223,000.00
Louisville & Nashville R. R. Stock	100,000.00	152,000.00
Baltimore & Ohio, Com., R. R. Stock	100,000.00	113,000.00
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, Com., R. R. Stock.	100,000.00	89,000.00
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, Pref., R. R. Stock.	100,000.00	105,000.00
Union Pacific, Com., R. R. Stock	100,000.00	150,500.00
Illinois Central R. R. Stock	100,000.00	175,500.00
Atlantic Coast Line, Com., R. R. Stock	50,000.00	79,000.00
C., C., C. & St. Louis, Com., R. R. Stock	50,000.00	53,750.00
Reading, 1st Pref., R. R. Stock	100,000.00	92,000.00
Delaware & Hudson Co. Stock	50,000.00	112,000.00
American Telephone & Telegraph Stock	50,000.00	70,000.00
Chatham National Bank, N. Y., Stock	5,000.00	16,000.00
Westchester & Bronx Title Guar. Co. Stock	5,000.00	7,500.00
Underwriters' Salvage Co. Stock	1,000.00	1,000.00
Cash in Banks and Office		166,668.58
Agents' Balances in course of Collection		305,589.88
Interest and Dividends Due and Accrued		23,012.72
Total Assets		$4,053,482.43
LIABILITIES.		
Unearned Premiums	$1,858,542.24	
Unpaid Losses	181,141.44	
All Other Claims	35,670.87	
Total Liabilities		$2,075,354.55
Capital Stock		300,000.00
Net Surplus, beyond Capital Stock and all Liabilities		1,678,127.88

This Company has been in CONTINUOUS and SUCCESSFUL operation for more than THREE SCORE YEARS, and operates under provisions of SAFETY FUND LAW OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE R. CRAWFORD, President. M. O. BROWN, Secretary.
JOHN Q. UNDERHILL, V.-P. & Treas. JOHN H. KELLY, Ass't Sec'y.

Commercial Union Assurance Co.

LIMITED,

OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencies
WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

WHAT is the use of saying
"The best company,"
or "The strongest company,"
or "The largest company"?
They all say these things.

WE SIMPLY SAY . . .

THE PENN MUTUAL LIFE Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Organized 1847.

THAT TELLS THE WHOLE STORY.

Bankers Life Insurance Company
of the City of New York.
Foster M. Voorhees, President.
Issues the most liberal policies,
Offers the best renewal contracts to Agents of
Standing and Responsibility.
For particulars apply
Home Office, 31 Nassau St., N.Y. City.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

INCORPORATED 1851.

The Berkshire Life Insurance Company,

OF PITTSFIELD, Mass.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.
JAMES W. HULL, Pres. JAMES M. BARKER, Vice-Pres.
J. M. LEE, Actuary. THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec.
ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Secy.
Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

"The Leading Fire Insurance Company of America."

Incorporated 1819. **Charter Perpetual.**

Cash Capital,	$4,000,000.00
Cash Assets,	15,814,054.98
Total Liabilities,	5,367,203.89
Net Surplus,	6,446,851.09
Surplus as to Policyholders,	10,446,851.09
Losses Paid in 86 Years,	99,899,109.49

WM. B. CLARK, President.
W. H. KING, Secretary.
A. C. ADAMS, HENRY E. REES, C. J. IRVIN, A. N. WILLIAMS, Assistant Secretaries.

WESTERN BRANCH, Traction Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.
KEELER & GALLAGHER, General Agents.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH, Omaha, Neb.
WM. H. WYMAN, Gen. Agent. W. P. HARFORD, Ass't Gen. Agent.

PACIFIC BRANCH, San Francisco, Cal.
BOARDMAN & SPENCER, General Agents.

INLAND MARINE DEPARTMENT,
CHICAGO, 145 La Salle St. NEW YORK, 50 and 52 Pine St.
BOSTON, 137 Milk St. PHILADELPHIA, 226 Walnut St.

The Empire State Surety Co.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK
391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*
WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, JR., . *President*
EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

THE AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

OFFICE COMPANY'S BUILDING. 308 and 310 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

CASH CAPITAL	$500,000.00
Reserve for Reinsurance and all other claims	2,116,118.40
Surplus over all Liabilities	222,677.40

TOTAL ASSETS, JANUARY 1, 1905, $2,838,795.80.

JOHN H. PACKARD, JR., President.
WAITE BLIVEN, Secretary.
WM. F. WILLIAMS, Treas. and Asst. Sec'y.
EDWARD MANEUVRE, Asst. Sec'y.
LOUIS S. AMONSON, Secretary of the Agency Department.

DIRECTORS:

John H. Packard, Jr. John S. Gerhard.
Joseph E. Gillingham. Edward Lowber Welsh.
Charles S. Whelen. Archibald R. Montgomery.
Edward F. Beale. Thomas K. Ober, Jr.
Francis E. Bond.

AGENTS WANTED
BY

OF NEW YORK

Exclusive Territory
Liberal Contracts

STRENGTH
SECURITY
SOLIDITY

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846—1905.

On January 1st, 1905, **The Connecticut Mutual** had received from its members $232,759,294.33. It had returned to them $234,353,488.98, or **$1,594,224.65** more than the amount received from them. It had assets on hand of $65,224,841.53, and a surplus of $4,828,696.64 with which to meet a liability, actual and contingent, of $60,396,144.89 on $167,167,515.00 at risk on 70,454 policies. Except in the possible case of some society or concern with only a local and slight membership, no comparable results have been accomplished by any other American Life Insurance Company.

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President.
HENRY S. ROBINSON, Vice-President.

HERBERT H. WHITE, Secretary.
DANIEL H. WELLS, Actuary.

1825. THE 1905.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,443,725.09
Surplus	2,585,263.42
Total January 1, 1905	$6,428,988.51

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO.,

INCORPORATED 1833.

FIRE AND MARINE. Head Office: TORONTO, CANADA.

UNITED STATES BRANCH.

JANUARY 1, 1905.

Assets	$1,428,610.75
Liabilities	1,030,923.14
Net Surplus	$397,687.61

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410.42	$11,290,773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1906. No. 3.

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Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

THE Governor of New York lectured the Legislature this week on the subject of investigations by that body to ascertain the guilt of State officials charged with violation of law. He informed the honorable gentlemen that they could institute nothing of the kind. The laws vest the initiative in proceedings against a State official in the Governor, and he may or may not, at his discretion, submit the matter to the Senate. Above all, if they think that they can start "a legislative fishing expedition for the purpose of suggesting or, if possible, discovering some official act deserving censure or punishment, or for the purpose of making political capital by discrediting a public officer," they are mightily mistaken. This is pretty plain talk; it sounds a good deal like scolding; at any rate it makes plain that the Governor does not intend to remove Superintendent Hendricks from office, and will not recognize the power of the Legislature to question on its own motion—if it were so disposed—the Superintendent's official acts. The Governor's position appears to have created indignation among members, but we suspect that it is mostly simulated indignation. He affords them a convenient excuse to avoid submitting to the penny newspaper demand that they shall investigate themselves as to "how they got it" when the life insurance bloom was in the lobby. The Governor can now be held responsible for throwing a chill on the investigation business.

IN the prevailing ruck of insurance legislation the idealists who believe in government insurance are quite at the fore again. If the paternal State will insure the property, lives, limbs and health of its citizens, rates will be lower, protection will be absolute and corruption will be unknown. It is the favorite axiom of the advocates of insurance by the State and municipality that "the system is perfectly feasible, and has been proved so in foreign countries." The New Zealand experiments are much in evidence. We have before us a report on the results of the first year of Government fire insurance in that land of socialistic adventure. It appears that the Government reinsured most of its business with Lloyds underwriters, thus sending the premiums out of the country while it was competing with the local companies which keep the premiums at home, with the net result that, although the losses were light, there was an impairment of the Government capital invested in the business at the end of the year. Meanwhile the insurance companies were cutting rates on business taken by the Government, and raising them on risks that the Government could not take. The situation was further complicated for the Government by its inability to renew a large part of its reinsurance contracts by reason of the terms introduced into the conditions under the insurance law. It may be said that one year's experience cannot determine the question of success, but how can the scheme ever be successful when it is at variance with the fundamental principle of fire underwriting that there must be a wide distribution of liability to protect the insurer from failure? It is toward State life insurance, however, that the minds of most of the insurance reconstructionists are now running. In Connecticut it is gravely proposed to have the State take on the business of industrial life insurance. The argument by one of its advocates is that as the State would not employ solicitors or collectors, because the people would walk up to the Government office voluntarily and ask for policies, the large expense now incident to industrial insurance would be saved and rates could be much lower. A study of the British Post Office life insurance system would shed light on the value of this proposition. As a matter of fact the working classes do not flock to the Government offices to obtain insurance, and the industrial companies, of which the Prudential of London is the great leader, do employ solicitors and collectors at a large expense, and transact 99 per cent. of this class of business in the United Kingdom.

SENATOR DRYDEN introduced in Congress on Monday his revised bill to establish Federal supervision of insurance, and we print a full synopsis of its features. In brief the bill creates a Bureau of Insurance in the Department of Commerce and Labor, which shall be charged with the execution of the provisions of this and all other laws that may be passed by Congress for the supervision and regulation of the business of insurance among the several States. The bureau shall be in charge of a Comptroller of Insurance, and there shall be a deputy comptroller and a competent actuary and other necessary employees. The business of insurance between the States is declared and held to be interstate commerce, and policies or other contracts of insurance are deemed and declared to be "articles of commerce and instrumentalities thereof." All insurance companies engaged in interstate commerce must file copies of their charters with the Comptroller of Insurance and comply with the other regulations prescribed by the act as conditions precedent to the granting of license, and upon such compliance license will be issued to them to transact business in any State, Territory or District of the United States. No company can transact such interstate business without receiving such license under heavy penalties. Companies so licensed are relieved from the necessity of making annual statements to—and are not subject to the visitorial powers of nor examination by—officials of other States than their own. But they are subject to the exercise of all these functions of supervision by the Fed-

eral bureau of insurance. The Federal actuary shall determine their insurance reserve, and the Federal examiner shall examine into their affairs either by order of the Comptroller of Insurance or on the complaint, through him, of the insurance commissioner of any State. The Comptroller of Insurance is empowered to fix all reasonable fees, and establish such regulations as he may deem necessary for the administration of the bureau, and all fees so collected shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States. In other words the Dryden bill substitutes national supervision for State supervision over the interstate business of all insurance corporations. It leaves to the State insurance department supervision only over the domestic business of the companies of its own State. While no specific allusion is made in the bill to the power to tax, the inference is that as the right of the licensed company to do business in any State is absolute, the power to tax is taken away from the State. Were it possible to enact this bill into law and push it through the Supreme Court, the condition which it would create of freedom to do business everywhere, with complete exemption from other State interference of any kind, including taxation, would be regarded by traders in insurance as nearly ideal. But as the States would never consent to such an abandonment of their reserved powers—and in view of the long line of Supreme Court decisions, including the recent one in the Iowa anti-compact case, they cannot be made to do it—we fear that this vision will never materialize into cold fact. The Ames bill, also introduced in Congress this week, seeks to nationalize insurance through the District of Columbia. It, too, abolishes the right to taxation by the States. That will be one of the reasons why it will be opposed by a majority of the representatives of the States in Congress.

Facts and Opinions.

Enough replies have been received from public officials invited to the **Chicago Insurance Convention of February 1** to assure its complete success. Up to yesterday morning Chairman Drake had received acceptances from thirty-one insurance commissioners, eleven governors of States and eleven attorneys general, making fifty-three delegates in all. There were forty-four who responded that they would be unable to be present. Twenty officials have written that they are uncertain, but may yet accept. A number of persons are still to be heard from. The attendance in any event will be double that of any national convention of the kind that has ever been held. Besides there will be a good many representative men, both of the insurance and legal professions, who will attend to present their views on remedial legislation. Chairman Drake has issued a notice in regard to special hotel rates at Chicago during the convention, and announces that the Palmer House has been selected as headquarters.

The illness of **Governor Pattison of Ohio** since his inauguration has caused some concern to his friends, although those immediately connected with the family intimate that there is no serious trouble. The Governor was inaugurated at the State Capitol, Columbus, on January 8. The ceremonies, held in the rotunda, under the dome of the Capitol, were very simple, yet very impressive. The music furnished by the Columbus Democratic Glee Club and the Fourth Regiment Band was of a very high order, and elicited much commendation. Governor Pattison was sworn in by the Chief Justice of the State, and then delivered an inaugural address, which has already excited much comment throughout the State. Seated upon the platform with Governor Pattison during the inaugural ceremonies were his wife, son, two daughters, and of the members of his official staff of the Union Central Life insurance company there were E. P. Marshall, the secretary; J. R. Clark, treasurer; Dr. John L. Davis, medical director; Allan Waters, superintendent of agents, with their wives. N. W. Harris, of Chicago, the first secretary of the Union Central, was also present. Among the general agents of the company were J. E. Heffelfinger, of Springfield, Ohio; Capt. E. A. Ramsay, of Washington, Ohio; O. W. Carpenter, of Cleveland; E. W. Jewell and John L. Shuff, of Cincinnati. Governor Pattison, on account of the arduous campaign through which he had passed, had not been well for a month, but was able to deliver his inaugural address, and passed through all of the subsequent functions attending the inauguration, the review of the parade, reception in the evening in the Senate Chamber and smoker to the press at the Hotel Hartman. While the Governor, during the session of the Legislature, will be obliged to be at Columbus most of the time, nevertheless he will be in close touch with his insurance company, and expects to spend from one to two days of each week at the office of the Union Central in Cincinnati. The outlook for business for the Union Central during the coming year was never more promising than at the present time.

The Insurance Commissioner of Michigan has rendered a decision in the **Bellaire case,** in which the complainant, a local agent at that place, asked the Commissioner to rule that the withdrawal of a Western Union company from the agency because it also represented non-Union companies was a violation of the Michigan anti-compact law. In this decision, a copy of which follows, the Commissioner holds that the **separation rule of the Western Union** is in contravention of the anti-compact law.

After giving careful consideration to all of the evidence before me in the so called Bellaire case, wherein your company with others was cited to a hearing upon the question of requiring it to show cause why its certificate of authority should not be revoked, I have arrived at the conclusion that I am not justified by the evidence in making such citation. The Deputy Attorney General, who attended the hearing, has advised me that he does not consider the evidence sufficient to establish a violation of the so called anti-compact law of this State. The evidence submitted by the companies shows that their aggregate premium income at the agency in question had decreased from $2,561.42 in 1901 to $489.54 in 1905. Under such circumstances, it is the opinion of the Deputy Attorney General and of the Commissioner of Insurance that the companies were justified in withdrawing from the agency. I desire to state, however, that if this fact justifying the withdrawal had not been shown, I should have considered the withdrawal of all the so called Union companies at practically the same time, prima facie evidence of an agreement to enforce separation. This department will not, with its present understanding of the anti-compact law, permit or countenance enforced separation. If a company is receiving what it has been satisfied in the past to receive in the way of premium returns or income from an agency, its withdrawal in concert with other companies from that agency with apparently no cause for such withdrawal, except the fact that there were so called non-Union companies in the agency, will be considered by this department a violation of the law, and steps will be taken to revoke the certificate of authority of any company so withdrawing. Any agent who continues to give a company the same service that has been acceptable in the past will be protected in his rights by this department, and companies will not be permitted to coerce him into giving up legitimate companies authorized to transact business under the laws of this State.

The **"perversity of inanimate things"** is well illustrated by the tendency of fires to break out when sprinkler equipments are out of commission. The report for December of the Boston Manufacturers' Mutual Fire records two such cases. One happened in the bleach room of the Cosheco Print Works at Dover, N. H., causing a loss of from $13,000 to $15,000. The report remarks:

The automatic sprinkler equipment in the bleach room was out of commission at the time, having been removed on account of the corroded condition of the pipes and sprinkler heads. The lack of sprinkler protection allowed the fire to spread rapidly, and in about ten minutes from the time it was first discovered flames were coming out of the windows and extending

upward to the second story on the outside. The fire, as it passed up the elevator way, was met by the water from the automatic sprinklers in the story above, and the spread of fire in that part of the building was prevented. * * The effects of this fire illustrate the need of promptly renewing all corroded sprinklers and piping in order that good sprinkler protection may be maintained at all points.

Of another fire, which damaged about $1,000 in the plant of the Walworth Manufacturing Company at South Boston, the report says:

One line of hose was immediately brought into play by the men in the yard. In a short time the public department arrived, and soon had four streams from the fire engines in service. The steam fire engines drawing water from the main soon lowered the pressure, so that the stream from the yard system was useless. The fire pump was out of commission, pending the completion of a new supply tank in the yard. The public fire department did good work and soon had the fire extinguished. The fire was probably caused by the spontaneous ignition of oily rags which were contained in eight or ten iron barrels, the same being brought into this building for the purpose of having the oil extracted. The building had been equipped with automatic sprinklers for some time, but the connection between the mains and the system had not been provided, consequently the equipment was useless. There were two monitors on the building, one of which was badly damaged and the other slightly so; also a section of the roof between monitors was somewhat damaged.

Good reinsurance connections and carefully selected investments constitute the reasons of the successful career of the **Rossia insurance company of St. Petersburg**, Russia, which transacts a reinsurance business only in this country. The statement of the United States branch shows assets, including deposits with the trustees of the company and in the hands of the insurance departments of New York and Ohio, amounting to $1,949,372.82, and a net surplus of $733,244.62. The Rossia received in reinsurance premiums during 1905, $2,122,642.55, and paid out in losses $619,302.46. The reserve for unexpired reinsurances is $987,424.20. The company entered the United States in February, 1904, and last year's results, as compared with those of its first year in this country, show an increase in assets of $851,010.24, an increase in reinsurance reserve of $511,385.23, and an increase in surplus of $205,598.01. The loss ratio during 1905 was 38.6 per cent., with an expense ratio of 29.1 per cent. Credit for this creditable exhibit rests upon the manager, Mr. Carl F. Sturhahn, whose conservative judgment is no small factor in the company's prosperity in America. The trustees are Hugo Schumann, president of the Germania Fire; Isaac N. Seligman, of J. W. Seligman & Co., and Hubert Cillis, vice president of the Germania Life. We may add that the Prussian Life, which writes reinsurances for life companies and is under the same management as the Rossia, wrote in the neighborhood of $2,250,000 of business net during the first five months of its operation in this country, notwithstanding the fact that new life insurance business has been difficult to get.

The **Alliance Against Accident Fraud** will have a "rogues' gallery" of its own. It will keep recorded on a card catalogue all accident fakirs. This decision was reached at a meeting on Wednesday at the Hotel Astor, New York. A committee was appointed to submit to Congress a bill aimed at this class of swindlers, the provisions of which resemble those already adopted in several States. Detectives will watch all accident cases in the courts throughout the country and report the names of the sharpers. State and national medical societies and bar associations will be asked to aid the association in prosecuting fraudulent lawyers and doctors. Fraudulent and exaggerated claims reported to the Alliance, it is estimated, aggregate over $450,000 yearly. Officers were elected at this meeting as follows: Russell A. Sears, of the Boston Elevated Railway Company, president, succeeding Robert B. Armstrong, who declined re-election; James R. Pratt, of the United Railways Electric Company of Baltimore, re-elected first vice president; Chauncey S. S. Miller, of the Casualty Company of America, re-elected secretary and treasurer. A board of directors, consisting of the president ex-officio and C. C. Paulding, of the New York Central; E. S. Lott, of the United States Casualty Company; W. C. Wilson, of the Lackawanna; James B. Pratt, of the Baltimore Electric Railway Company, and R. B. Armstrong, was elected. There will be another meeting of the Alliance in April at Boston.

There is quite natural solicitude among reinsurers of fire risks in this country as to the effect of the recent domestic troubles of the Russian empire upon the **Russian insurance** companies which do a reinsurance business here. The *Journal of Commerce* is able to quiet such apprehension as may exist by publishing a letter from a well informed Hamburg correspondent, who says:

The serious commotion to which the big Russian Empire has been exposed of late has had almost no effect whatever upon the business of our various branches in that country, having neither caused a decrease in our premium income, nor, at least up to now, an increase in our losses—of course without consideration of losses caused by riots, which, however, do not affect the insurer. In the fire branch we have had the same premium income as in the previous year; the life and accident branch shows an increase which is equal to the increase in previous years; and even the marine business, apart from shipments to the Far East, as Vladivostok, Port Arthur, Dalny, of which of course there were none, remained of an active character. The losses in the fire business remained absolutely normal, and in the marine branch were even more favorable than in the previous year. If it is correct that the quality of the insurance business of a country is an indication of the welfare of that country, and if it is generally observed that the increase or decrease of fire losses stands in close relationship to the depression or development of our commercial life, then the fact that the losses in Russia have not increased to an extent worth mentioning will entitle me to the gratifying conclusion that that politically so hard pressed country is not facing a catastrophe. I cannot close my remarks about Russia without making the fact known to the shareholders that we have closed our year with a considerable profit in the Russian fire business as well as in our marine business there.

On account of the deaths of Vice President Bloomfield J. Miller and Director Ballantine several promotions were made at the annual meeting of the directors of the **Mutual Benefit Life of Newark** on Monday last. Le Gage Pratt, who has been acting as second vice president, was advanced to first vice president, and Edward L. Dobbins, who has been secretary and treasurer, was given Mr. Pratt's office. Frederick Frelinghuysen was re-elected president. Other changes were the advancement of J. William Johnson from assistant secretary to secretary, Samuel W. Baldwin from assistant treasurer to treasurer, and Edward E. Rhodes from actuary to mathematician. George Robotham was re-elected auditor, Sydney N. Ogden actuary, Amzi Dodd general counsel, William S. Dodd associate counsel and David Kay, Jr., attorney. The medical board, made up of Drs. Edgar Holden, George A. Van Wagenen and Joseph C. Young, will be continued. Thomas W. Cauldwell, of Morristown, was elected to the board of directors in place of the late Mr. Miller, and Peter Campbell was selected to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Ballantine's death. The other members of the board, Amzi Dodd, Edward H. Wright, Marcus L. Ward, Frederick M. Shepard, Frederick Frelinghuysen, Albert B. Carlton, Edward L. Dobbins, J. William Clark, John O. H. Pitney and John R. Hardin, were re-elected.

A statement on behalf of **Governor Higgins** was given out on Monday by his legal adviser, Cuthbert W. Pounds, in which it was announced that the Governor would not recognize the right of the Legislature to institute investigations of the official conduct of public officers of the State unless at his request. The statement said:

The public officers law vests the power of removal from office of the Secretary of State, Controller, Treasurer, Attorney General, or State Engi-

neer and Surveyor, or of any officer appointed by the Governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, upon the recommendation of the Governor. With regard to the elective State officers, the Senate has power on such recommendation to conduct an investigation upon charges and upon notice to the accused officer, and the Governor may direct the Attorney General or may appoint any suitable person to conduct the trial of such charges before the Senate. (Public officers law, Section 22.) The Governor, before making a recommendation to the Senate for removal of any officer, may, in his discretion, take proofs for the purpose of determining whether such recommendation shall be made. There must be some charge of official misconduct or malversation on the part of the officer. Persons deeming that there is cause for complaint against a State officer may, in the first instance, present their charges to the Governor, and he will, if the complaint justifies such action on his part, institute an investigation for the purpose of determining whether he should recommend to the Senate the removal of such officer.

The statement adds that no charges have been made to the Governor against Insurance Superintendent Hendricks.

The **Arkansas** insurance year closes February 28, and State Auditor Moore is sending out blanks to the insurance companies doing business in the State. He has made the following statement regarding the reinsurance business of the fire insurance companies now operating in the State under his license:

As Insurance Commissioner, I take the position that reinsurance is absolutely prohibited by the anti-trust law, but the penalty that the local company negotiating such reinsurance should pay the tax prescribed by law is not of such a character as to be preventive. Granting the fact of reinsurance, the original company must of necessity be held responsible to the State, for the outside company, being outlawed, cannot be known to the State.

His opinion will become effective on March 1, when companies renew licenses to do business in Arkansas. The local companies announce that they will obey the law as construed by the State Auditor and make the necessary arrangements to provide the reserve. It is to be presumed that they will be assisted from outside.

In an article written for the press Justice **Morgan J. O'Brien**, one of the members of the voting trust of the Equitable Life, **expresses conclusions** upon life insurance methods, derived from his recent experiences, as follows:

One of the valuable reforms arising in the new order of things will necessarily be a simplification of the system under which policies are secured. Up to now neither the public nor the companies had any protection against misrepresentation by agents hungry for commissions. There were too many ramifications, too many kinds of policies, the result being that the policyholder half the time did not know precisely what he had got and nearly every policy was disputed. This led certain companies to offer as an inducement to business the proviso that a policy would be incontestable after three years—in my judgment a most dangerous provision, offering temptation to every kind of fraud. The one cure for this evil is, as I have indicated, a simplification of the whole system. I do not think that there should be more than three kinds of policies, of which the direct life insurance, payable on death, and the endowment policy, in which a man with no family ties desires to make provision for his old age, are perhaps the best. The act of taking out a life insurance policy should be as simple and as easily understood as the act of putting money in a bank, and, in fact, life insurance is in its general effect simply another form of banking money.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Massachusetts State Board of Trade on Tuesday, a report **opposing the Dryden bill** in Congress was adopted as follows:

Your committee, to whom was referred a series of questions propounded by the author of the so called "Dryden bill," now before Congress, which provides for Federal supervision of insurance companies, beg leave to suggest the following reply: "Inasmuch as it does not appear that Federal supervision of insurance companies, as provided by the so called 'Dryden bill,' now before Congress, would displace the rights of the several States to individual supervision which they have heretofore exercised, nor that the benefits to the insuring public resulting therefrom would be commensurate with the added expense to the insurance companies, and, inasmuch as the interests of the citizens of Massachusetts appear to be well protected by the admirable administration of the insurance department of this State—therefore, the Massachusetts State Board of Trade, as at present advised, does not see its way clear to indorse the proposed bill."

A spirited address was made by **Senator John F. Dryden** on Federal supervision before the Newark Board of Trade on Thursday night. Alluding to the bill which he introduced in Congress this week the Senator said:

A Federal insurance law will not deprive the States of any of the rights specifically reserved to them under the Tenth Amendment. The States, under the bill introduced, will retain all the rights and powers over their own corporations which constitutionally belong to them; but the bill will put an end to the multiform system of State supervision and control over insurance corporations, which has no justification in any sound theory of constitutional rights or in any common sense conception of State duty. The bill will put an end to interstate chaos and terminate an intolerable condition of affairs jeopardizing the interests and at times the very existence of companies transacting interstate business. This great interest is entitled to recognition by the Federal Government. It needs the Government's prudent, consistent and effective supervision. It is not confined in its operations to the limits even permitted to our flag. It is inseparably interwoven with our national prosperity on land and sea. Until it is disposed of wisely and permanently it is a matter that will not be laid at rest.

The **Armstrong Investigation Committee** was in session at Hotel Normandie, New York city, this week, and yesterday the insurance commissioners of the District of Columbia, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee, Minnesota and Connecticut were in attendance to present their views and listen to those of the committee. It is understood that the report of the committee may be in condition to present to the Legislature next week. Regarding the suits which it has been reported that Attorney General Mayer of New York will institute against the directors of the Mutual Life, New York Life and other companies to obtain restitution of alleged wasted funds, it is understood that the Attorney General is not inclined to press these suits if the persons against whom they will be directed will take the initiative in restoring the funds in question. There has been a postponement of legal action until after the report of the Armstrong committee has been presented to the Legislature.

"Touching and appertaining to" the **administration of Mr. McCurdy** as president of the Mutual Life, *Assurance* says:

His board of trustees—which our friend THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, with rare fidelity to the fictitious beauties appertaining to the operations of the life insurance business—insists were elected by the policyholders, etc.

If the trustees were not elected by the policyholders, who elected them? The charter of the company prescribes in Section 6 that the trustees shall be elected "by the members of this corporation, a plurality of votes constituting a choice, but an insurance of at least $1,000 in amount shall be necessary to entitle any member to vote"; and Section 4 prescribes that "all the corporate powers of the said company shall be exercised by a board of trustees, and such officers and agents as they may appoint." If, as our contemporary says, the board of trustees was elected by Mr. McCurdy, this violation of the charter should surely be looked into by District Attorney Jerome.

An application was made on Wednesday in Judge Mack's court at Chicago for a temporary injunction to restrain the Union Securities Company and its representatives from voting the stock of the **Federal Life insurance company of Chicago.** It brought to light the fact that the 1,110 shares of Federal stock owned by the Securities people had been transferred to President Hamilton, of the Security, as trustee, and that he was empowered to vote it at stockholders' meetings. Judge Mack held that he had a right to vote the stock in such a capacity, and on that account declined to issue a restraining order. Counsel for the complainants, however, announced that they would ask for a permanent injunction and an

order of court directing the Securities Company to transfer to such persons as are entitled thereto all of the Federal stock now held by it.

The annual meeting of the **Ætna Indemnity Company** was held at Hartford on Wednesday and the former board of directors and officers were re-elected. The additional office of third vice president was created and Stanley Gifford selected for the position. The announcement was made that the capital stock has been brought up to $500,000 and considerable addition made to the surplus. General Manager Beekman Hunt made the following statement:

The management begs to announce to the stockholders of the Ætna Indemnity Company that the balance of the capital stock of the company—remaining unissued at the last stockholders' meeting and amounting to 2,766 shares—has been issued and paid for at a price of 220 per cent., or $110 a share; thus completing the capitalization paid in in cash to $500,000 and adding a very large sum of money to the surplus fund. During the year 1905 a complete reorganization has been effected of the company's management, and the operations for the year just closed show a material increase of business along much more conservative lines at a saving of expenses of operaton and fixed charges of $70,000 per annum.

The tenth annual meeting of the **National Fire Protection Association,** which is to be held in Chicago May 22 to 24, promises to be notable in the history of that active and progressive organization. In addition to the usual program including discussion and adoption of rules and specifications covering fire protection topics, the tenth anniversary is to be marked by a commemorative address on the organization, aims and purposes of the association, to be delivered by Uberto C. Crosby, United States manager for the Royal Exchange, who is one of the founders of the association, its only honorary life member, and who has been identified with fire protection work covering a longer period than is represented by the history of the organization. An additional feature of interest in connection with the meeting will be the demonstration to be given in the new testing station of the Underwriters' Laboratories.

A prospectus of the **First National insurance company,** incorporated under the laws of Delaware with $100,000 capital, is being sent to agents in different States. They are invited to sell the stock and become agents and get commissions of at least 25 per cent. on business. Accident and health insurance appears to be the purpose of this concern, and one new feature is mentioned in the prospectus, to wit:

This company will issue a new casualty policy, viz., affording insurance against loss or damage to buildings, collapse, overweight, earthquakes, cyclone, wind, hail or other storms, floods, or any other accident or casualty, excepting the hazards now covered by policies now issued by fire, boiler, automatic sprinkler, plate glass, elevator or liability insurance companies. The combined hazards to be assumed by this company have never been covered, except cyclone and tornado insurance, which is now written by a few companies at great profit.

The *Surveyor* is reliably informed that Mr. Vincent R. Schenck is closely affiliated with this new enterprise.

The management and agency force of the **Ætna insurance company of Hartford** are to be congratulated upon the exhibit of gains made by the company during 1905. Assets increased $1,001,241.89, making net total cash assets $16,815,-296.87. A gain in surplus amounting to $589,159.84 brought that amount, as of January 1, 1906, to $7,036,010.93. The Ætna is a prompt payer of legitimate losses, as is shown by the eighty-six years' record of $102,847,801.66 paid to policyholders. President Clark is fond of the story about the Chicago policyholder who stood over the ashes of his property almost before the smoke of the great conflagration had drifted away, and, waving the check he had just received from the old Ætna, cried: "I don't care whether she's got any money in the bank or not; she pays her losses promptly, and that's good enough for me."

Policyholders calling at the offices of the **New York Life** are invited to sign the following printed **blank proxy,** and they are doing it almost without a failure:

Know all men by these presents that I, ———, of the city of ———, insured under policy No. ———, issued by the New York Life insurance company, do hereby constitute and appoint John Claflin, Oscar S. Straus and Clarence H. Mackay, and each of them, my true and lawful attorneys, for me and in my name, place and stead, to vote as my proxy at the annual election of trustees of the New York Life insurance company, to be held in the year 1906, with full power of substitution and revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that my said attorneys, or any one of them, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof. All of the powers of this proxy may be exercised by such one of said persons as shall attend said election or any adjournment thereof, or by a majority of those attending, if more than one shall attend. This proxy shall be invalid after the expiration of eleven months from this date. I hereby revoke all my former proxies.

The **taxation of life insurance surplus** is the newest demand of Insurance Commissioner Host of Wisconsin. In an address at a club dinner at Madison on January 9 he said:

If the accumulation of unnecessary millions of surplus held by deferred dividend companies is not checked, when and where will it end, and who is to receive the benefit? Not one cent of tax has ever been contribnted to the revenues of the State on account of this vast and unnecessary accumulation. If there were a law in every State providing for a heavy tax—say 5 per cent.—on surplus not distributed or not carried as a liability, I think a large percentage of it would be returned to its rightful owners. At first this may seem a radical suggestion, but after it is carefully considered it will appear most reasonable. No company need pay the tax unless it wants to. The remedy lies with the company; the benefit goes to the citizens of the several States. Under the provisions of such a law the State would either receive an annual revenue of from $400,000 to $600,000 or it would compel the distribution of from $8,000,000 to $10,000,000 to residents of this State, through whose means it would reach other channels of taxation.

The **Mechanics insurance company of Philadelphia** enters into its fifty-second year in a most satisfactory financial condition. The year 1905 proved a good year for fire insurance corporations, and the Mechanics has now to its credit assets of $1,094,297.68, a reinsurance reserve of $555,867.50 and a net surplus of $262,277.97. The cash capital of the company is $250,000, making the surplus to policyholders $512,277.97. Besides this the Mechanics has $26,152.21 in reserve for outstanding losses. The company is ably managed by Simon J. Martin president, John M. Campbell vice president and solicitor, and John A. Snyder secretary. Prompt payment of losses and competent management have built up for the company a solid reputation for square dealing which makes it popular with agent and assured alike.

The **Newark Fire Insurance Exchange** has adopted a new schedule for rating varnish factories. Some fifteen years ago, owing to severe losses on that class of risks, improvements were suggested by Newark insurance men which were forthwith put into effect by the factory owners. The result has been a much lower loss ratio on varnish works in Newark than in other cities. In the fear that unwarranted demands for lower rates would be made in contiguous cities if the Newark rate went down, some members of the Exchange entered strenuous objections, and the resolution went twice before the rating committee before it was finally passed, after a delay of some seven months. The schedule as it now stands gives ample consideration to the hazardous nature of the business conducted in the factories.

The one hundredth annual statement of the **Eagle Fire Company** of New York appears in this week's issue. The assets of the company have passed the million mark and are now $1,031,479.70, the reinsurance reserve being $281,829.29, while the

net surplus is $376,072.32. Increases were made during the year of $449,665.41 in assets, $351,501.14 in reserves and $98,164.27 in net surplus. The net premiums written during 1905 were $499,617.25, the expenses being $196,730.31 and the losses incurred $95,110.75. The loss ratio was only 19 per cent. (on incurred losses) and the expense ratio 39.4. The statement of the Eagle is a highly creditable one. It was announced this week that Charles R. Watson has been appointed to be the company's superintendent of agencies.

The metropolitan managers for the Equitable Life have asked the Armstrong Committee to recommend the making of **policy twisting** a misdemeanor. They also recommend that the following questions be incorporated in all applications for life insurance in companies doing business in this State:

1. Is your life now assured, and if so, is it your intention to discontinue any of the policies which you at present hold for the purpose of replacing same with new policy herewith applied for?
2. Did the agent soliciting this application influence you to discontinue any of your present policies?
3. Are you aware of the actual loss which you will sustain by changing your policy?
4. Have you notified the company of your intention to discontinue your policy, with a view to replacing it under this application?

The increasing demand for **automobile insurance** has induced the Fireman's Fund insurance company of San Francisco to enter that branch of the business. It will be transacted through the marine department, of which Mr. F. Herrmann is the Atlantic marine manager. Mr. William M. Klinger, the company's special agent for the California coast, is in New York organizing this department, and it is announced that agents of the fire department will be commissioned to write automobile insurance. The approximate figures for the 1906 statement from the home office show gross assets $7,232,552, an increase of $706,112 over last year; reinsurance reserve, $2,981,730; increase, $106,015; and net surplus, $2,718,144; increase, $484,232.

At Catskill, N. Y., lives Arthur Jeune, who, **overcome by conscience**, has confessed to a Brooklyn missionary that in June, 1900, he fired his house while temporarily insane, and was not entitled to the insurance money paid him by the Farmers Mutual Fire insurance company of Catskill. Last week he sent to all the stockholders of that company a printed letter inclosing a check for the amount they had been assessed to meet the loss. Mr. Jeune expressed his regret for his unaccountable action in setting fire to his home, and quoted a sentence from the Bible regarding the repentance of the wicked who restore the pledge. The amount of insurance paid to Jeune was $1,115. In restoring this sum Jeune said he acted on the advice of the missionary.

A writer in the London *Post Magazine* on **the Family History Fetish**—Dr. Rabagliati, medical officer of the French Provident Institution—contends that the human race does not inherit disease, because if it did it would become extinct. There is no possible deterioration of the race as a whole, because merciful death sweeps away the individual family strain that persistently disobeys. Then, says the doctor:

To descend to the concrete and to the facts of daily life. If men and women would live, like Cornaro, on 12 or 10 ounces of food a day instead of consuming 2 pounds, 3 pounds, 4 pounds, 5 pounds, even 7 pounds, as some do, there would be no need for medical examination at all, for human life would be increased even in this generation by from five to twenty-five years, and in the generations to come by very much more. How much more, who shall say?

A majority of the stock of the **Security Life and Annuity of Philadelphia**, held by the Western Life Indemnity Company, which proposed to reinsure its business in the Security Life, has been purchased by John Worthington, of the Chicago Savings Bank. He becomes vice president of the Security and M. M. Reynolds, also of Chicago, becomes a director. Burton B. Bales, superintendent of agencies of the Western Life, has resigned to become secretary of the Security Life. and H. D. Underwood, formerly with the Equitable Life as manager for central Pennsylvania, has been appointed manager of the General Department, with jurisdiction over Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan.

A Harrisburg, Pa., press dispatch says that the compulsory appearance of **Insurance Commissioner David Martin** before a State legislative investigating committee as a witness against himself is threatened, unless he answers satisfactorily a demand made upon him by the House of Representatives for particulars of his alleged retention, for his own pocket, of thousands of dollars in fees that have not been recorded by or reported to the Auditor General. It is not supposed, however, that Mr. Martin has introduced any innovation in the way of enlarging his income from his office. It has been the custom of Pennsylvania insurance commissioners to take the fees, and they have amounted to about $20,000 annually, exclusive of salary.

The **loss on the John Spry Lumber Company in Chicago**, which caused material changes in the rules governing lumber insurance by the Chicago Underwriters' Association, has been settled under a non-waiver agreement at 73 per cent. on $58,000 of insurance. The companies insist that they supposed they were writing merely on lumber in the yard, and not on the mill, as the form was headed "East Yard," where the rate was 3.44, while the mill rate was over 6 per cent. The insured, however, claims that the form covered in both mill and yard, and that it was made up with that intention. Several companies have paid, but it is known that a number will stand suit.

The **Pan-American Fire insurance company of New York** is being organized by J. Ramsay Barry & Co., of Baltimore and New York. It will have $200,000 capital and $100,000 paid in surplus, the funds having been practically all arranged for. The company, it is expected, will begin operations in April. James McEvoy, of Willis, Homer, France & Smith, will be president of the company. He is closely identified with the Security Fire insurance company of Baltimore, being one of its directors. J. Ramsay Barry & Co. will be general agents of the Pan-American Fire and Adolph Loeb & Sons will be general agents for the West. Leo A. Loeb will be one of the directors.

A formal notice was sent to the New York Life insurance company, on January 12, by **Superintendent Vandiver, of Missouri**, of the withdrawal of his order of suspension of the company's certificate, issued October 7, 1905. The letter was addressed to J. H. McIntosh, general solicitor of the New York Life, and said that with the resignations of President McCall and Vice President Perkins, and the return to the treasury of the $235,000 lobby fund and the assurance of restitution of $148,000 campaign contributions, there has been a substantial compliance with the requirements demanded, and in consequence the order of suspension was revoked.

The **resignation of William R. Prescott** as assistant manager of the Queen in the Southern Department, to take service with the Hartford Fire, is announced. Manager Samuel Y. Tupper, in making this action officially known to the agents in the department, says:

Mr. Prescott has been connected with the Southern Department of the Queen since its removal to this city about twelve years ago, and the loss of his services at this time will be keenly felt by our agents in the South, as it is by the officers of the company and this management. In joining forces

with our friends of the Hartford he carries with him the esteem and best wishes of us all, and I know that I voice for you this sentiment in parting with him. Mr. Prescott's successor will be announced later on.

Queer Bills in the Legislatures.—A Virginia bill, by Senator Lassiter, prohibits from doing business in the Commonwealth any fire insurance company which pays an agent a larger commission in any other State or Territory than it pays an agent in Virginia. A South Carolina bill creates the office of Bank and Insurance Commissioner, and requires the Governor to appoint the official on the recommendation of the Bankers' Association of South Carolina. A Mississippi bill, by Mr. Ratcliff, provides that if a life insurance company neglects to act upon an application for life insurance within thirty days after date thereof it shall issue a policy to the applicant anyhow.

The report for 1905 of the chief of the **Brockton, Mass.**, fire department shows the greatest **fire loss** in the history of that city, aggregating $370,626, as against $114,254 for 1904, and the insurance paid on last year's losses amounted to $352,599. The greater part of the loss was, of course, traceable to the catastrophe of March 20, 1905, which destroyed the Grover factory and six other buildings, with a loss of $258,000, and ended fifty-seven lives. It is also noted that in the month from February 21 to March 20, 1905, the automatic alarm called the fire department to the factory not less than seven times.

Statistics gathered by Pittsburgh underwriters show that 17,700 persons were **maimed or injured** last year in **Allegheny County, Pa.** Naturally thousands of casualties are never reported. Employers blame the carelessness of their help for the accidents. Of these cases ninety-two only have come to the notice of the State Factory Inspector, who announces that he will investigate next month a factory where many accidents have occurred. Here are the figures: Killed or wounded in iron and steel mills and blast furnaces, 9,000; in other mills or factories, 4,000; in coal mines, 400, and on the railroad, 4,300.

The record of the experiences of the **Travelers insurance company** during 1905 is worth attention. The total cash income of the company was $13,895,000, an increase of $1,355,000 over the year before. The total assets of the company increased $4,503,000, and now amount to $48,960,079.40. The reserve fund for the protection of policyholders increased $3,858,000 over that of the previous year, making that item $42,113,572.42. With a surplus to policyholders amounting to $6,353,857.72 over and above all other liabilities, the Travelers guarantees absolute protection to its customers.

The **Southern Life** insurance company has been organized in **Jacksonville, Fla.** Its authorized capital stock will be $1,000,000, and it will begin business when $100,000 has been subscribed. A temporary organization was effected, with M. D. Johnson, who is at the head of the Peninsular Industrial insurance company, as president; R. Bowen Daniel, vice president; O. S. Allbritton, secretary, and P. D. Cassidy, treasurer. Those, together with Judge John W. Dodge, compose the temporary board of directors who were selected at the preliminary meeting to apply for the charter.

The resolution of Senator Brackett in the New York Senate requesting **United States Senator Depew** to resign was called up by him on Tuesday, and after a virulent and vicious speech from his mouth a vote was taken and he was defeated by 34 to 1, he being the one. The Democrats asked to be excused from voting, as they regarded the resolution as a Republican party matter. In Washington Senator Tillman was striving to emulate Brackett. Both are born blackguards, the only difference being that Tillman is honest in his foolishness while Brackett is a humbug.

It having been stated in a daily paper that **Charles E. Hughes** had expressed himself warmly in favor of action by the Legislature to make **twisting a misdemeanor**, Mr. Hughes has issued the following official denial:

Mr. Hughes was shown a statement in a morning paper that a committee representing an organization of life insurance agents had called upon him to present resolutions asking that twisting be made a misdemeanor, and that he had expressed himself as warmly in sympathy with the purport of the resolutions. Mr. Hughes said that he had expressed no opinion upon the matter, but on the contrary had declined to express one, saying he would refer the matter to the Legislative Committee.

The information which Insurance Commissioner Folk has elicited from the **life insurance companies** doing business **in Tennessee** will be published by him in pamphlet form for the benefit of policyholders. The Tennessee Association of Mutual Policyholders has begun correspondence with the mutual life companies, for the purpose of securing, as far as possible, lists of policyholders in that State. The Massachusetts Mutual and the Security Mutual of Binghamton are the only companies that have sent lists, and hence the matter has been taken up by the policyholders.

Three policyholders in a **negro insurance company** of Atlanta, Ga., the Industrial Life and Health, have begun suit against the president and three of the directors, alleging that they have diverted about $50,000 a year from the funds of the company, or in all $200,000, which they should be required to return, and that they contemplate transferring the business to the Atlanta Industrial Company, which, if permitted, will deprive these policyholders of remedy to protect their rights. Judge Pendleton, at Atlanta, has granted a temporary injunction.

The **Interstate Life of Louisiana** has been chartered with $300,000 capital, which was several times oversubscribed. The eighty-two original stockholders each agreed to take out a $5,000 policy. Gustave Lemle, a well known New Orleans attorney, was made president, with L. P. Rice vice president, H. C. Leake secretary and Albert Baldwin, Jr., treasurer. The directorate will be divided among the Central Southern States. A. S. Smith has been appointed superintendent of agencies and S. Herbert Wolfe, of New York, consulting actuary.

After a hearing in the Juvenile Court at Boston Monday **Albert W. Deares** was held for the grand jury on a charge of having **set the fire** which caused damage of about $25,000 to the building and contents at Pitts and Green streets December 21 last, and in which a workman, Raymond Panfilo by name, lost his life. At the time young Deares was lauded as "a hero" for his activity in notifying the occupants of the building of their danger, but evidence has since developed which put him under suspicion and led to his detention as noted.

Suit for $21,000 against **Mrs. Susan Day Parker**, the yachtswoman, was begun Thursday in the United States Circuit Court of New York by the Liverpool and London and Globe, which charges that this amount was wrongfully paid the defendant for the burning of her steam yacht Scythian when off Marblehead, Mass., in 1902. The company claims that practically all of the yacht's interior furnishings had been

removed before the fire. Mrs. Parker refused the company's demand for a return of one-third of the money, hence the suit.

In his annual report Chief Joseph Shaw, of the Massachusetts State police, makes these comments on the **theatre law** enacted in that State after the Iroquois Theatre horror:

That part of the law which requires theatres and public halls having a seating capacity of 400 or more to be specially inspected and licensed appears to be unjust, as it allows places having a seating capacity less than 400 to be used without the license or monthly inspection. The number of persons allowed to occupy a theatre or public hall could much better be left to the judgment of the inspectors of this department. Churches are exempt from license or monthly inspection, but in some churches and parish houses there is far greater danger of fire or panic than in licensed places.

The **Georgia Association of Life Insurers** held an annual meeting at Atlanta, January 9, and elected officers and executive committee for the year ensuing as follows: President, R. L. Foreman, of the Equitable Life; vice president, Clarence Angier, of the Mutual Benefit Life; secretary, R. N. R. Bardwell, of the Germania Life; executive committee, E. R. Black, of the Prudential, chairman; J. J. Coggins, of the Manhattan; R. F. Shedden, of the Mutual Life of New York; T. H. Daniel, of the Union Central, and Charles S. Northen, of the Phœnix Mutual.

The **Sovereign Fire Assurance Company** has been organized at Toronto, Ont., with $250,000 capital and the following officers: Addison H. Hoover, president; William Dineen, first vice president; J. H. Tilden, second vice president; Thomas Baker, third vice president; H. S. Wilson, general manager. This organization is of particular interest to Americans through the fact that the general manager will be H. S. Wilson, aforesaid, who resigns the Western management of the Northern of London to take the position.

The annual meeting of the **Insurance Library Association of Boston** took place last Saturday. All of last year's trustees but one—Messrs. Carpenter, Leighton, Brush, Simpson, Hiscock and Hinkley—were re-elected. The exception was Mr. George P. Field, whose resignation was accepted with regrets and acknowledgment of his services to the association, and Mr. Horace H. Soule, Jr., was chosen in his place. The position of treasurer and clerk was again placed in the competent charge of Mr. E. C. Brush.

A fate worse than death has been meted out to Dr. C. S. Harle, C. T. Richardson and William Mason, the **American insurance swindlers** sentenced to be shot in Chihuahua, Mexico, by the commutation of their sentences to twenty years' penal servitude on the islands off the Mexican coast. The trio were convicted of poisoning two American policyholders of the New York Life to get the insurance. Dr. Harle was a Texas physician, and the other two were Rochester, N. Y., men. They will undoubtedly be placed in the salt mines.

At the request of ex-Senator **David B. Hill**, the New York State Bar Association has passed a resolution directing its committee on grievances to investigate and report "whether there was anything improper or unprofessional in his employment by the Equitable Life Assurance Society, and whether the compensation received by him was reasonable or excessive, and whether the same was received for any political purposes or services." Mr. Hill claims that the annual retainer of $5,000 was for service fully rendered.

The fifty-third annual statement of the **Williamsburgh City Fire** insurance company, which we publish today, shows some remarkable gains over last year. The gross assets of the company now amount to $2,851,209.37, with a net surplus of $1,492,093.03 over and above capital and liabilities. The gain in assets over the year before is $265,411.03, and the gain in surplus amounts to $200,267.82. The statement shows an increase in the reserve amounting to $63,059.81. The company has paid in losses to January 1, 1906, the sum of $11,836,583.40.

The field superintendents of the **Metropolitan Life insurance company** held their annual convention in New York on Friday and Saturday of last week. Representatives from all the States east of the Rocky Mountains and from Canada were in attendance. President John R. Hegeman was presented with a set of engrossed resolutions, signed by all the superintendents, setting forth the high esteem in which he is held by them. On the second day ten separate territorial meetings were held in various rooms in the home office building. The afternoon was given to sightseeing, and there was a banquet at Delmonico's in the evening.

The **North Star** Mutual Dwelling House Fire insurance company of Minneapolis is **"broke"**; at any rate Judge Day, of the District Court, is looking for a receiver to care for assets of $2.84, mostly in postage stamps, and liabilities of $2,000. He has already granted a motion of the Assistant Attorney General, instigated by the Insurance Commissioner, to wind up its affairs. The company had no legal reserve, but had insurance in force amounting to $380,281.

The **Nebraska** Insurance Department has notified fire companies of other States which refuse to pay the **2 per cent. reciprocal tax** that they will be barred from doing business in the State. The reciprocal tax applies to thirty-six fire companies located in States which impose a special tax upon Nebraska companies. The companies tested the law and won in the Supreme Court, but on a rehearing the law was upheld and a motion for another hearing is now pending.

The annual statement of the **American insurance company of Newark** gives evidence that the company has assets amounting to $6,005,357.60 and a net surplus of $2,430,459.41. The year 1905 enabled the American to increase its surplus $393,558.05. Vice President P. L. Hoadley has sent a letter to each of the company's agents, thanking them for their loyal and energetic work, which has secured for the company such success during the year recently completed.

The **South Carolina policyholders** of the Mutual Life and the New York life insurance companies met at Columbia on Thursday and perfected separate associations for mutual protection. While the primary object of the meeting was to afford means by which the policyholders can be properly represented at the annual meetings of the companies, it was decided also to recommend one policyholder from that State for trustee in each company.

As **receiver for the Empire Life of New York** Justice Davis, of the Supreme Court, appointed Edward Browne, who gave a $10,000 bond. Warren Leslie has been appointed referee. An attachment for $3,372.42, the amount of a judgment received on January 6 by Mrs. Mary D. Brower, her attorneys claim gives her a preferred claim. Counsel for the company claims she will have to take her chances with the other creditors.

A typographical slip up made it appear in the article on the **New Amsterdam Casualty Company** in our issue of last Saturday that the company's surplus to policyholders was $119,423.90, whereas the first figure should have been a 4 and the amount should have been truly stated as $419,423.90. So little a thing as a figure makes a great difference if it goes

wrong. The net surplus of this progressive company is $105,023.09.

On Monday the **Delaware Fire** insurance company **of Dover, Del.,** began writing business as an authorized company in New York State. The name has been changed from the "Delaware insurance company" to the above form to avoid comparison with the old Delaware insurance company of Philadelphia. The Vedder Underwriting Company is general agent of the Dover company at 61 William street, New York city.

Baggage insurance is being tried by the Grand Trunk Railway system of Canada, and other roads are also expected to follow the experiment if it is successful. The idea is to curtail the number of rapidly increasing claims, often excessive, for damages to baggage. A rate of 6 per cent. of the price of a ticket is the charge made on a liability in excess of the amount for which the company is ordinarily responsible, usually $100.

These officers were elected at the annual meeting of the **Iowa Life Underwriters' Association,** held at Des Moines, January 6: President, J. C. Cummins, secretary of the Equitable Life of Iowa; vice president, Elliot S. Miller, general agent of the Connecticut Mutual Life; secretary, A. H. Huling, editor of the *Underwriters' Review;* treasurer, Robert Fleming, general agent of the Mutual Life of New York.

The **Connecticut** Insurance Commissioner has filed with the State Controller of that State a certificate stipulating that the sum of $10,969.45 should be **refunded to the Mutual Life** insurance company of New York. This means that the four other companies, the New York Life, Metropolitan, Equitable and Germania, will have to make a contest for the $60,000 they claim from the State because of overpaid taxes.

Some of the Western fire insurance companies and departments pulled through 1905 with notably **low loss ratios.** The large majority of Western departments were below 50 per cent., while some, doing a general business, went down close to 40 per cent. The Central Manufacturers of Ohio got through the year with a 30 per cent. loss ratio, while the State of Nebraska had one of only 28 per cent.

The Equitable Life's manager at Pittsburgh, **E. A. Woods,** was at New York headquarters this week in conference with President Morton. He reported that in 1905 his agency wrote $12,437,000 of insurance, of which $2,066,000 was written in the month of December. This represented a loss of only 18 per cent over 1904. The loss in lapses over the previous year was only one-fifth of 1 per cent.

The **Nylics of the New York Life** were in convention at Lakewood, N. J., this week. President Orr, Vice President Buckner and Secretary John C. McCall were in attendance and made addresses, as did also ex-Vice President George W. Perkins. The agents were enthusiastic throughout the meeting, and invariably cheered the name of ex-President McCall when it was mentioned.

The long pending difficulty between the **rival boards of underwriters at St. Paul** is likely to be settled. The two bodies have met, the board agents entertaining the non-board agents at a dinner in the Commercial Club, at which plans were made for mutual concessions. The St. Paul Fire Underwriters' Association has elected E. E. Hughson president, and A. W. Ferry as vice president.

The esteemed general manager of the **United States Casualty Company** has a very pretty taste in the choice of girls—we allude to calendar girls, of course—and the young lady he sends us with this year's souvenir is a daisy—a fit companion of that dream of loveliness to which he introduced the friends of his company last year. We congratulate Mr. Lott on his successes among the calendar ladies.

The Lawyers Mortgage Company of New York on Wednesday dropped the following insurance men from its board: James Hazen Hyde, William H. McIntyre, George H. Squire and Robert A. Granniss. Alvin W. Krech also retired from the board. Their places were filled by Robert W. Goelet, Ernst Thalmann, Henry L. Stimson, Louis V. Bright and William A. Day.

At a meeting of the directors of the **Hanover Fire of New York** on Thursday Joseph T. Low retired from the vice presidency, Charles A. Shaw was re-elected to the presidency and Joseph McCord became vice president and secretary. He had been second vice president and secretary. Robert J. Newman and William Morrison were re-elected assistant secretaries.

At the second annual meeting of the **Life Underwriters' Association of Rochester,** N. Y., which was held at the Chamber of Commerce rooms in that city on Saturday, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: M. R. Miller, president; B. G. Bennett, first vice president; H. J. Emerson, second vice president; J. G. Turnbull, secretary; C. A. Kehr, treasurer.

The loss on the **West Hotel at Minneapolis** was something of a surprise to Western insurance men, as it was supposed to be of fireproof construction, but of the old type. It was insured under a general form, covering $400,000 on building and $50,000 on furniture. The loss on building is estimated at 15 per cent. and on furniture at 50 per cent.

A fourteen year old Baltimore girl, Emma Flamm, furnished the evidence on which a jury, on Tuesday, **convicted** George Kennedy **of arson.** He will serve three years in the penitentiary. The child told of seeing Kennedy scratch a match and set fire to a bunch of rags, which, blazing up, gave her a distinct view of the man's face.

Because **Pittsburgh** pays from $5,000 to $7,000 in insurance premiums on its **municipal property** while the losses have so far been greatly below these figures, hereafter that city will carry its own insurance, if some of the pseudo reformers succeed in their kick. The change will be followed, of course, by a big fire.

Missouri towns do not abate their disposition to **impose occupation taxes** on fire insurance companies. At Doniphan, Mo., the council has passed an ordinance taxing all companies $15 a year for the privilege of doing business there. The local agents have protested and are trying to secure reconsideration.

The following officers were elected at the annual meeting of the **Toledo, Ohio, Fire Underwriters' Association:** Frederick H. Dodge succeeding George R. Wiedeman as president, Peter J. Kranz succeeding R. L. Cone as vice president, James A. Dailey secretary, succeeding Charles M. Lang, deceased.

The trial of the indicted ex-officials of the **Northwestern National Life** of Minneapolis for alleged misappropriation of the company's funds will begin January 29 with that of former

President William F. Bechtel. If he is convicted it is expected that the other convictions will be easy.

Losses were heavier **in Iowa** in 1905 than in 1904, and the State companies felt the effects of the hotter competition of the outsiders. Premiums fell off and losses were increased, especially among the companies doing a large farm business, the fires being very numerous in that class.

The Governor of Virginia has reappointed **Corporation Commissioner Joseph E. Williard** for a term of four years from February 1. Colonel Williard is reputed to be the richest man in Virginia. The corporation commission is the body which charters new insurance companies.

Having decided to enter Great Britain, the **Continental Casualty Company** has appointed James Garner-Smith its manager for the United Kingdom. He had until recently been connected as secretary with the British branch of the Preferred Accident of New York.

Since the city of Malden, Mass., sustained considerable loss following the burning of its **uninsured high school,** the public property committee of that classic burg has seen a great light, and caused $92,000 insurance to be placed on the contents of its school buildings.

A sub-committee of the **Wisconsin Legislative Investigating Committee,** consisting of Senators Frear and Roehr and Assemblyman Ekern, was appointed to come to New York to confer with the Armstrong committee and get pointers as to how to proceed.

The **Georgia Mutual Fire** insurance company, with main offices in Atlanta, has been granted a charter by Secretary of State Philip Cook, of Georgia. This company proposes to do a mutual and co-operative business and will have no capital stock.

The State Auditor of Iowa is requiring surety companies admitted to that State to pledge compliance with his ruling that **fidelity bonds issued in Iowa** must provide for their cancellation at short rates at the joint request of the obliger and obligee.

The Agents' Association of the **Massachusetts Mutual Life** had its fourteenth annual banquet at Cooley's Hotel, Springfield, Mass., Tuesday evening. Covers were laid for 150 guests. President John A. Hall spoke for the company.

A license has been issued by the Missouri Insurance Department to the newly organized **Midland National Fire** insurance company of St. Louis with $100,000 capital. H. S. Huiscamp is president and J. W. Dougherty secretary.

There was a sharp **advance in fire insurance stocks** at the public auction held in New York on Wednesday. Williamsburgh City took a jump from 640 to 851 and Continental from 1,075 to 1,371¼. Bidding in most cases was spirited.

The most encouraging bulletins continue to come from the bedside of Mr. **George P. Field,** of Boston, who sustained an operation for appendicitis a few weeks ago, and an ovation awaits him when he reappears on "the street."

The line of the **Cleveland-Akron Bag Company,** amounting to $800,000, which has been carried by the mutuals for several years, has been regained by the stock companies, and is being placed by W. B. Maxson & Co., of Cleveland.

The **Hartford Life** insurance company has issued the first number of its new company paper, *Office and Field,* which is newsy and breezy, and is adorned with a handsome portrait of "Yours for 1906. Geo. E. Keeney, president."

The **Texas Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents** is working hard to increase its membership, and has appointed Dapney L. Pollard, a well known underwriter, as special agent to canvass for applications.

"Federal Supervision" is the topic on which former Assistant Attorney General Frederick H. Nash of Massachusetts was announced to speak before the Insurance Library Association of Boston last evening.

The **Prudential** issued paid for business last year of over $305,000,000. Its income was very nearly $50,000,000; its assets now are over $107,000,000; its total amount of insurance in force is over $1,160,000,000.

The annual statement of the **Franklin Fire of Philadelphia,** which appears in our advertising pages, shows an excellent financial condition, with assets of $3,065,251.08 and a net surplus of $996,672.18.

The organization of a State **fire prevention association** is being promoted **in Iowa** in order to ally the field men, now that the anti-compact law prevents further co-operation there.

The **Des Moines Fire** has been added to the outside companies doing business in Arkansas. It will operate through the Memphis general agency of W. L. Nelson & Co.

At Sanborn, N. Dak., the **National Fire and Marine insurance company** has been organized with $100,000 capital and ex-Governor Frank White as president.

The **Franklin Fire** of Philadelphia has **re-entered St. Louis** after being out of the city for five years. Delafield & Snow have been appointed St. Louis agents.

There will be an **extra session of the Texas Legislature** in April to amend the insurance laws. The Insurance Commissioner favors an entirely new code.

Loss ratios in the larger cities of Ohio in 1905 were unusually low—Cincinnati, Cleveland and Toledo getting off with less than 30 per cent. each.

The **resignation of J. F. Chase,** manager at Boston of the United States Life, to take effect at the end of this month, is announced.

The **North American Accident** of Chicago is entering Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, North Dakota and Nebraska.

"Mac Curdy, le grand potentat de la Mutual Life" is the way *L'Argus* of Paris describes him.

The **Texas Life of Waco** has applied for admission to Missouri under the legal reserve law.

The **Federal Union Security** of Indianapolis proposes to increase its capital to $500,000.

The **Portland, Me., fire loss** in 1905 was a trifle over $120,000, the best showing for six years..

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Maryland Casualty: L. L. Jaynes & Co., general agents at San Francisco, Cal.

Massachusetts Mutual Life: J. S. Budd, district agent, with headquarters at Macon, Ga.

National Life of the U. S. A.: G. M. Grier, manager for Oregon, transferred to Arkansas, where he has associated himself there with J. E. Milliken, State agent, as Grier & Milliken.

Northern of London: The Manley-McLennan agency, Duluth, Minn.

Provident Savings Life: R. M. Baker, general agent for northwestern Ohio.

Security Mutual Life: J. M. Devine, general manager for North Dakota, with headquarters at Minot.

Union of London and Law Union and Crown: W. A. Windus, special agent for eastern Washington, Idaho and Montana.

Major John C. Whitner, one of the most prominent fire underwriters of the South, died at Atlanta, Ga., on Monday morning, after an illness extending over several months. He had suffered several strokes of paralysis. He was a native of Edgefield, S. C., and a graduate of the University of Georgia of the class of 1853. During the Civil War he served with distinction in the Confederate Army, and was for two years major on the staff of Gen. Howell Cobb. After the war he did some journalistic work, being for a time the Atlanta correspondent of the New York *Herald*. He went into the fire insurance business in 1866 as the special agent of the Home of New York, and since that time has been general agent at Atlanta for the British America, Merchants of Newark, Girard Fire and Marine, Palatine and Sun of New Orleans. He was always active in the councils of the South Eastern Tariff Association, and was a noted student of fire insurance statistics and a writer on the subject. He retired about a year ago from business, leaving his general agency to his sons. Major Whitner was in his seventy-fifth year. He is survived by four sons and a daughter.

President Burnham, of the Mutual Reserve Life, was, according to the daily papers, selling his horses and disposing of his other property last week, preparatory to a long trip to Europe. District Attorney Jerome, being approached by a yellow reporter with an inquiry as to what he is going to do about it, replied: "Oh, there is a lot of evidence to read before I can answer that. I have not had time to get a clear idea of the situation yet."

Mr. William S. Warren, resident secretary in Chicago of the Liverpool and London and Globe, has resigned as a member of the governing committee of the Western Union, of which he has been vice chairman, on account of the pressure of his new duties as president of the Underwriters Western Salvage Company. H. C. Eddy, resident secretary of the Commercial Union, has been appointed to the committee to succeed him.

Mr. Harvey E. Roberts has resigned the second vice presidency of the Interstate Life insurance company of Indianapolis, the resignation to take effect February 13. Mr. Roberts retired from the joint proprietorship of the *Surveyor* in 1903 to enter the service of the Interstate, and was located for some time at Philadelphia. He subsequently took charge of the company's business at Detroit.

Dr. William R. Harper, late president of the University of Chicago, carried nearly $100,000 life insurance. A twenty year endowment policy in the Connecticut Mutual Life for $5,000 had recently matured. Other policies were carried in the Massachusetts Mutual Life, Mutual Life of New York and the Northwestern Mutual Life. He often advised his professors to insure.

Mr. P. W. Ward, Ohio general agent of the Ocean Accident and Guaranty Company, has been elected chairman of the Insurance Committee of the Ohio Senate. With an insurance man as Governor, and another as chairman of the Insurance Committee, no crank insurance legislation should be feared in that State.

Hon. Pedro Perea, Insurance Superintendent of New Mexico, who was Delegate in Congress from the Territory from 1897 to 1899, died at his home in Bernalillo, N. M., on January 11, from chronic indigestion. Mr. Perea was appointed in 1905 as the first superintendent of the new department of insurance.

President S. C. Dunham presided at the banquet of the managing agents of the Travelers held at the Hotel Heublein, Hartford, Conn., Monday evening. The banquet was in connection with the yearly conference of the company's agents, which closed Tuesday.

Ex-Governor Frank Steunenberg of Idaho, who was killed by an assassin's bomb several weeks ago, carried a $2,500 paid-up policy in the Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee, unknown to his wife, who opposed life insurance from religious scruples.

Mr. James Hazen Hyde was the only American present at the meeting of the National Assembly of France on Wednesday on the occasion of the election of a new President of the Republic, except newspaper correspondents, says a *Tribune* dispatch.

Mr. Robert E. Ward, of Joliet, Ill., district agent of the Equitable Life for the Middle West, is alleged to be involved in peculations aggregating $20,000. Warrants charging him with forgery and passing forged papers have been issued.

Mr. Charles Quintard Gray, senior special agent for Texas of the Liverpool and London and Globe, died from pneumonia last week while conducting an inspection of the business in northwestern Texas. He was twenty-eight years of age.

Mr. H. S. Wilson has resigned the management of the Western department of the Northern of London at Chicago, to take the general management of the newly organized Sovereign Fire of Toronto.

Mr. Benjamin F. Walker, a York City, Pa., insurance adjuster for over twenty-five years, died from a fractured skull January 4 at his home there, from the results of a fall upon the porch of his house. He was sixty-five years of age.

Mr. J. Charles Seitz, assistant actuary of the State Life of Indianapolis for five years, has been appointed chief actuary of the Security Life and Annuity Company of America at the home office in Philadelphia.

Mr. Charles T. Cole, a well known fire underwriter of Nashville, Tenn., died at his home near that city on January 6. Death was due to heart failure, induced by an attack of grip. He was forty-seven years old.

Mr. Thomas C. Parsons, formerly Western general agent of the Western of Pittsburgh, has been appointed special agent for Indiana of the companies represented by the general agency of Adolph Loeb & Sons.

Capt. M. L. Shade, an agent for the New England Mutual Life, has resigned to become general agent for the United States Life Endowment Company of Chicago, with headquarters at Rockford.

Mr. John E. Cheetham, agency director of the New York Life at Watertown, N. Y., has been transferred to Norfolk, Va., to a similar position, owing to the closing of the Watertown office.

Miss Ada V. Longley, of Cincinnati, a stenographer in the employ of the Union Central Life, has been appointed by Governor Pattison of Ohio correspondence clerk in the executive office.

Mr. J. A. Lassoe, manager of the liability department of the United States Casualty Company, convalescent from a serious attack of pneumonia, is traveling in the South.

Mr. C. B. McGrew has withdrawn from the firm of Davis & McGrew, managers of the Washington Life for Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan, to go into other business.

Mr. H. D. Chapman has resigned as manager for the Travelers at Kansas City, to become agency director for the New York Life at Syracuse, N. Y.

Mr. Houston Cotton, a special agent of the Hartford Fire in Texas, died suddenly January 11. He was a nephew of J. M. Cotton, of Houston, Tex.

Mr. J. C. Rudd, of Owensboro, Ky., a prominent local fire insurance agent of that city, died there January 10, aged seventy-two years.

Mr. Charles E. Hughes, counsel of the Armstrong Investigating Committee, sails for Europe about February 1 for a month's rest.

Mr. George H. Ackerman has been elected treasurer of the Preferred Accident insurance company, and a director thereof also.

Mr. E. E. Cole, formerly secretary of the National Union Fire of Pittsburgh, has been elected president of that company.

Mr. Loyal A. Wilson, of Syracuse, is being boomed as a candidate to succeed Insurance Superintendent Francis Hendricks.

Mr. H. J. Lancaster, general agent at Spartanburg, S. C., died there December 31 from pneumonia, after a brief illness.

Mr. Grandison F. Read, a Brooklyn insurance adjuster, died there Tuesday of cancer of the throat, aged seventy-nine years.

Manager Carl Schreiner, of the Munich Reinsurance, arrived here on the Kaiser Wilhelm II on Thursday.

Mr. Resen Calvert, of Wilkinsburg, Pa., an insurance man seventy years of age, died there January 12.

Mr. C. Gill Watt has been elected secretary of the Allegheny Insurance Company of Allegheny, Pa.

Mr. Robert H. McCurdy has been re-elected a director of the Central Realty Company.

Mr. Cyrus K. Drew, of the Denver *Insurance Report*, is a welcome visitor in New York.

Mr. A. P. Wilson has resigned as manager of the New York Life for Idaho.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Kentucky.

FRANKFORT, Ky., January 17.—Mr. Miller today introduced House Bill No. 227, which requires all persons licensed by the Insurance Department to present to the county clerk of each county in which the person or agent solicits insurance the license issued by the Insurance Department, and cause the said clerk to certify that the same has been presented to him and a record of the same made in his office.

House Bill No. 26, introduced by Mr. Stewart, amends Section 4232 of the statutes by striking out "on the first day of July in each year" and inserting "on the first day of January of each year." This section of the statutes refers to reporting the amount of premiums received for the purpose of taxation by the State.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., January 11.—Mr. Gifford has introduced Senate Bill No. 14, which provides that fraternal beneficiary cor-

porations may take a hold on real and personal property to an amount not exceeding $100,000.

BOSTON, January 16.—It is reported that the Insurance Committee is opposed to Governor Guild's plan for an expert codification of the insurance laws.

A petition was presented in the House today that fraternal and beneficiary associations which insure against death or accidents from external causes only may be put under the same conditions as other fraternal beneficiary associations.

An order offered by Mr. Mellen of Worcester, with a long preamble, is as follows:

Ordered, That the Insurance Commissioner be requested to investigate and report forthwith to the House of Representatives the advisability of a revision of the laws pertaining to fire insurance, and more especially with regard to the form of fire insurance policy known as the Massachusetts Standard Policy.

Mississippi.

JACKSON, Miss., January 16.—Mr. Ratcliff today introduced Senate Bill No. 38, "An Act to Require Prompt Action and Report by Life Insurance Companies," on application for insurance, and prescribing penalty for failure to so act and report.

New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J. January 15.—Mr. Martin introduced joint resolution No. 1 in the House today, providing for the investigation of all insurance companies, trust companies, savings banks and State banks by a committee of three Senators and five Assemblymen, to sit during and after the Legislature. The intention is to see if the New Jersey laws are adequate to protect the patrons of such concerns. The committee is empowered to enforce the attendance of witnessees and employ counsel. The bill was referred to the Committee on Banking and Insurance.

Mr. Martin says he merely wants to ascertain the conditions and extent of the State laws; and the resolution is not likely to get out of the committee for several days, and maybe weeks.

New York.

On Tuesday Mr. Story introduced in the Assembly a bill amending No. 133 amending the insurance law requiring fraternal benefit orders doing business in the State to have supreme governing bodies of which a majority shall be elected directly or indirectly by members of the order.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 17.—The Senate Code Committee has reported Senator Marks' "anti-graft bill." The third section has been amended so as to provide "that within ninety days (instead of sixty days) after the final adjournment of the Legislature the corporation shall file with the Secretary of State a detailed statement," etc.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 19.—The week in legislation has been devoid of interest, so far as relates to insurance. But one insurance bill was introduced in either branch—that of Assemblyman Story (Int. No. 130) relative to mutual benefit fraternities. The insurance committees of the Senate and Assembly have organized, but at present there is nothing for them to do.

Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, January 15.—Mr. Hillenkemp today introduced House Bill No. 75, to prohibit fire insurance companies from inserting in policies the clause requiring insurers to take insurance up to a certain percentage of the value of the property, or to be held as insurers to the amount of difference of the amount held and the amount required.

Pennsylvania.

The special session of the Pennsylvania Legislature, called by Governor Pennypacker, was convened on Monday. The only subject appertaining to insurance, mentioned by the Governor in his call, was the following:

I recommend that the fees collected by the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the Insurance Commissioner be hereafter paid into the Treasury of the Commonwealth, and that a proper salary be paid to each of these officials as sole compensation. The continuance of fees, in whatever public office the system may survive, is a vicious anachronism.

The Insurance Commissioner has been receiving about $20,000 per annum in fees in addition to salary.

South Carolina.

A bill has been introduced to create the office of Bank and Insurance Commissioner. The bill, which was introduced by Mr. Wash, of Spartanburg, provides that "the duties now conferred upon the State Bank Examiner shall hereafter be performed by the Bank and Insurance Commissioner, without compensation, except that provided in the act entitled 'An act to establish the Insurance Department of South Carolina.'" The bill contains the absurd provision that the Bank and Insurance Commissioner shall be appointed and commissioned by the Governor on the recommendation of the State Bankers' Association of South Carolina.

COLUMBIA, S. C., January 12.—A bill has been introduced in the House by Mr. Ardrey, providing that it shall be unlawful for any life insurance company doing business in this State to sell or issue to any person in this State a deferred dividend policy. Any dividend accruing to or accumulated by any life insurance policy hereafter issued in this State shall be credited on the next annual premium on said policy, or be paid to the policyholder.

United States Congress.

Senator Dryden's new bill to establish Federal supervision over insurance companies engaged in interstate commerce was introduced in the Senate on Monday. The bill contains some fifty separate provisions, of which the first thirty relate to the organization of a Bureau of Insurance in the Department of Commerce and Labor. The bureau is to be in charge of a Comptroller of Insurance, who is required to furnish a bond of $100,000. In nearly all essentials the bill, as far as possible, conforms to the organic acts establishing other departments of the Federal Government, but in particular the National Bank act. There is to be a deputy comptroller, who is also to be a bonded officer, and an actuary, who is required to be a person of recognized professional ability and experience. The general supervision and control of the bureau is under the direction of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, and all fees or other moneys collected are required to be paid into the Treasury. The comptroller must make an annual report to Congress, including the details of all examinations made of companies during the year, together with a complete statement of the receipts and disbursements of the bureau.

The next six provisions relate to the scope of the act and the definition of terms. The provisions of the act apply to all corporations, associations or partnerships engaged in interstate insurance business, or who make and deliver insurance contracts outside of the State of incorporation, or origin, or authority. Policies, or any other contracts of insurance, are declared to be articles of commerce and instrumentalities thereof, but the act

has no application to fraternal societies or organizations carried on for the sole benefit of members and not for profit. It, however, is provided that such associations, or societies, may voluntarily take advantage of the act, and, after complying with all its provisions, become duly authorized by the comptroller to transact interstate insurance.

The administration and regulation of companies is set forth in eleven provisions. The comptroller is required to establish rules and regulations and reasonable fees for conducting the business of insurance, including annual and other reports to be made by companies subject to the provisions of the act. The penalty for failure to make or transmit any report or statement of fact required by this act is $100 for each day of delay. The comptroller is also required to have a conservative valuation made of the business of life insurance companies, or determine the reinsurance reserve of other companies, upon approved methods and tables; and by such a standard of interest as may in his judgment and discretion best serve the purpose to determine and establish the true financial conditions and attendant liabilities of companies subject to the provisions of the act.

He is given authority and power to inquire into the details and facts of the management of all corporations engaged in interstate insurance, and he may have the companies examined by special examiners whenever he may deem this necessary or expedient. To this end he may invoke the aid of any court of the United States, to require the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books, papers and documents. Failure to obey such order of the court may be punished as a contempt thereof. It is also provided that companies may be investigated by the comptroller upon the complaint of any State commissioner of insurance, and the result and findings of such examination or investigation shall be communicated without undue delay to the commissioner making the complaint or requesting the investigation to be made. The actual and reasonable expense of every examination or special investigation of the affairs of an insurance corporation engaged in interstate insurance must be paid by the corporation so examined. All charges and fees for making such examinations, however, must be presented in the form of an itemized bill, approved by the Comptroller of Insurance, and the amount thereof must be paid into the Treasury of the United States. Direct or indirect payments by way of gift, credit or otherwise, to any officer, employee or examiner, of the Bureau of Insurance, are prohibited. Corporations transacting interstate or foreign insurance are specifically exempted from making any other or separate statements or reports, or held to be subject to any visitorial powers of examination of its business and accounts, other than by the Comptroller of Insurance, or by the proper authorities of the State of incorporation or origin.

Here the important provision is made that "no corporation transacting interstate or foreign commerce shall be required by any other than the State, Territory or District of its incorporation or origin to make other or separate statements or reports or held to be subject to any visitorial powers or examination of its business or accounts other than such as are authorized by this act, or are within the constitutional rights and powers of the State, Territory or District of incorporation or origin."

The next nine provisions relate to the authority and requirements of corporations transacting interstate insurance. Corporations engaged in the business of insurance in more than one State must file a copy of their charter, or other documents of local authority, and annually publish a list of their stockholders or trustees. They are required to make a deposit of $100,000, either with the Commissioner of Insurance or with the proper official of the State of incorporation or origin. After these requirements have been met to the satisfaction of the comptroller, a certificate of authority and power to transact interstate insurance shall be issued, whereby such corporations are authorized to transact business in any State, Territory or District of the United States, without further supervision or regulation than by the Comptroller of Insurance, or the duly authorized official of the State of incorporation or origin. Such corporations, however, must appoint in each State other than their own persons upon whom process of law may be served. Provision is made for conditions under which the certificate of authority shall be revoked and for the proceedings in case of receiverships. It is also held the duty of the Comptroller of Insurance to keep himself informed regarding insurance legislation in foreign countries affecting adversely the interests of American companies transacting business abroad.

The last nine provisions relate to crimes, penalties, etc. The Comptroller of Insurance may call upon the Attorney General for legal counsel, and if upon examination or other evidence made known to him, he shall be satisfied that any corporation transacting interstate business shall have violated any provisions of this act, the Attorney General shall institute proceedings against the same. Willful false swearing shall be punished as perjury, and a stringent provision is made against the acceptance of bribes or other unlawful gifts, etc., by officers, employees or examiners of the bureau. Unauthorized insurance is defined and a proper penalty for such insurance is provided for. All duties and powers of the Commissioner of Corporations relating to insurance companies are transferred to the comptroller. The act shall be in force from and after its passage.

WASHINGTON, January 16.—Representative Ames, of Massachusetts, today introduced a bill to regulate insurance. Mr. Ames, in a speech in the House several weeks ago, stated that the bill was practically an administration measure. It subjects to its provisions all insurance companies as a condition of transacting business in the District of Columbia. In effect, the bill is calculated to create a black list of all companies unwilling to conform to its provisions in the District of Columbia, and is intended to serve as a standard for State legislation on the subject of insurance.

The bill limits the investment of capital stock, prevents life assessment insurance and dividends in tontine periods; it prohibits child insurance up to the age of sixteen, and prevents the forfeiture of a policy after two full annual premiums have been paid thereon. It is intended to prevent deceptions by agents in the writing of insurance, and directs the advertising of the salaries and list of all officials of an insurance company. It also seeks to place a check on rates of loading, and on fees and salaries of officials.

The bill provides for dividends earned to policyholders in mutual life companies, after the third year of the life of the policy, and for examination and publicity of the business of insurance companies. It also stipulates that there shall be no taxation of insurance companies.

Virginia.

The general laws committees of the two houses, to which all insurance bills are referred, are as follows:

Senate.—William Shands, chairman; W. W. Sale, W. A. Garrett, A. R. Hobbs, B. T. Gunter, J. L. Campbell, F. S. Tavenner, J. P. Sadler, J. H. Niemeyer, C. J. Anderson, J. C. Noel, A. T. Lincoln.

House.—E. P. Cox, chairman; R. W. Withers, Charles T. Bland, D. B. Powers, Jr., G. R. Swift, Ordway Puller, S. F. Clement, M. B. Booker, R. C. L. Moncure, Martin Williams, J. L. Taliaferro, H. C. Glenn, W. C. Throckmorton.

RICHMOND, Va., January 17.—A bill has been introduced in the Senate by Mr. Lassiter, and referred to the Committee on General Laws, to regulate fire insurance companies and associations so as to prevent discrimination in the pay of agents. It provides

that no fire insurance company or association shall be allowed to do business in the State of Virginia whose agents or representatives in Virginia do not receive from said company a commission equal to or as large as that paid by the said company to any agent in any State or Territory in these United States.

RICHMOND Va., January 18.—Mr. Caton has introduced in the House a voluminous bill to create a State Bureau of Insurance.

Miscellany.

Returns of Fire Insurance Business December 31, 1905.

Companies.	Admitted Assets.	Net Surplus.	Premiums Written, Fire.	Losses Paid, Fire.
Ætna, Hartford	$16,815,296	$6,862,984	$5,715,759	$2,733,621
Agricultural, Watertown	2,960,364	857,261	1,344,829	604,041
Albany	677,978	252,393	222,205	103,109
American, Newark	6,005,357	2,430,459	2,288,968	952,987
American Fire, Phila	2,977,859	266,616	.....	.....
Camden	1,661,769	516,340	873,776	347,173
Connecticut	5,813,619	1,693,972	3,119,809	1,530,257
City of New York	611,903	295,602	184,533	15,550
Commonwealth	1,442,975	504,977	376,068	148,835
Empire City	475,639	88,345	329,686	130,121
Franklin, Philadelphia	3,065,251	996,672	770,926	399,974
German American	14,052,520	6,442,674	5,675,769	2,673,238
German Alliance	1,485,286	629,131	493,097	269,072
German, Peoria	908,031	160,598	610,288	237,090
Girard Fire and Marine	2,289,406	697,863	700,172	262,941
Hamilton	223,795	4,327	109,780	66,756
Hartford	18,061,926	5,124,820	12,936,113	6,208,551
Home, New York	21,239,052	8,720,501	8,415,824	4,100,088
Home Fire and Marine	1,773,829	500,080	1,124,338	530,482
Hanover, New York	4,350,604	925,515	2,645,149	1,439,686
Humboldt	635,580	246,774	176,642	54,834
National Lumber	253,648	47,379	6,490	.....
New York	605,269	61,682	499,126	231,657
New Brunswick	298,303	44,522	64,638	35,838
Niagara Fire	4,732,286	1,810,455	.....	.....
North River	1,796,459	440,895	.....	.....
Northwestern National	4,174,274	1,223,337	1,563,222	544,575
Pacific Fire	584,652	180,242	.....	.....
Phœnix, Hartford	8,140,630	2,380,939	4,058,048	1,843,335
Rossia	1,949,372	733,244	2,122,642	685,269
Spring Garden	2,013,789	302,884	.....	.....
Stuyvesant	595,450	152,111	416,806	178,810
Teutonia, N. O.	900,625	136,624	.....	.....
Union, Philadelphia	718,167	156,676	417,305	168,044

A British Review of Fire Insurance in 1905.

(*The Insurance Record, London.*)

Between conditions as they exist in this country and those in America there are, no doubt, wide differences; but one can hardly withhold admiration for the thoroughness with which fire underwriters in the United States are wont to seek the *raison d'être* of a great calamity, with a view to prevent its repetition, so far as it is possible for human wisdom to do so. As an instance, take the vitally important subject of conflagrations. The American is not content with expending his energies in the expression of fruitless regrets for the catastrophe through which he has passed, or with folding his hands in the comforting belief that a long time will probably elapse before the next conflagration, and that in the interim he may be able to recoup his losses. No doubt this may be a thoroughly philosophical attitude to assume; but it does not suffice for our relatives "on the other side." They very wisely conceive it to be necessary, in the interests of their several companies, to investigate the causes which lead up to such disasters, in the hope that means will be found for avoiding them in the future. The most recent of these conflagrations—those of Baltimore and Toronto—although by no means the first nor the most devastating experienced on the American continent, appear to have made a deeper and more abiding impression on the minds of fire underwriters there. Hence the appointment by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, some time ago, of a "Committee of Twenty" charged with the duty of investigation. The report of that committee on existing conditions in New York city and district has now been issued, and while parts of it which discriminate between the dangers to be apprehended in different quarters may have no material interest for English readers, its general tenor can hardly fail to prove instructive to all who transact fire insurance business in large cities. The points to which attention is drawn are largely those with which the *Insurance Record* dealt some time ago. The committee say: "The features contributing to and most seriously affecting the conflagration hazard in this city are the size and hollow square formation of the blocks, making them in effect single risks in many cases; the large number of conflagration breeding blocks; the wide areas, which, while not made up of bad individual blocks, contain weak units, form conflagration 'feeders,' and abut upon dangerous territory containing numerous conflagration 'breeders'; the narrow streets and general absence of fire breaks in connection with the average great height of buildings; the frequency of unprotected vertical and horizontal openings, particularly excess height openings; the high winds; the practically uniform inability of the water distribution system to supply the demand of third alarm fires; the physical conditions interfering with the proper handling of the fire department apparatus, and the antiquated, deteriorated and unreliable fire alarm system."

This enumeration of defective conditions must be admitted to be comprehensive and grave enough to cause anxiety in insurance circles, but surely it would be the idlest outcome of pessimism to pronounce them irremediable. Probably a remedy might be found for all of them by municipal authorities armed with adequate powers. But it is the mission of fire insurance to bring to bear such pressure, backed by special knowledge, as will conduce to the accomplishment of all that the circumstances demand, and supineness in the matter can result only in future losses.

Conditions of climate and construction in this country are doubtless less favorable to the occurrence of conflagrations than those which prevail in America; but it cannot be overlooked that every great city has its congested districts—its danger spots—from which disaster may come at any moment. In London, the Cripplegate catastrophe will not readily be forgotten; and there is recent evidence that it is still fresh in the recollection of the denizens of that unfortunate district, who have ever since been groaning under fire insurance rates which barely escape the description of "prohibitive." But even the worm will turn; and at a meeting held the other day a protest was raised "against the fire offices' reluctance to reduce the premiums on fire insurance, notwithstanding the great increase in fire precautions which are being insisted upon by the authorities." One can hardly avoid sympathizing with these oppressed traders. Relief from some quarter ought to be practicable. Cannot the fire underwriters devise some means for rendering it attainable, even if municipal wisdom has failed to do so?

Official Statement of the Future Work of the National Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents.

The following statement, signed by the president, chairman of the executive committee and secretary of the National Association of Local Life Insurance Agents, has been given to the press with the request that it be published as the platform of the association and as a statement of its future work:

No overhead writing, either by agents or companies anywhere. The protection of the agent in the cultivation of the territory for which he is appointed.

Brokerage—The protection of local agents against the unfair competition of outside brokers and companies which assist them. A recognition and equitable division of commission with non-resident brokers who can control insurance on property owned by non-residents.

Agency Representation—The sole agency preferred and urged wherever it is practicable and desired by agents in particular localities. The National Association will lend its support to any movement in any locality for sole agency representation.

Ownership of Expirations—The National Association stands for the agent's legal and moral right to retain his list of expirations, to be free to solicit the business at expiration on equal terms with other agents and companies, and to transfer the business which he controls by sale to another.

State Legislation—Co-operation between States, through the National Association, in all matters relating to legislation with which fire underwriting interests may be concerned.

Rates—Equal rates to all, applied by a common sense schedule based on classified experience and local conditions. The National Association deplores the attempt of any company or agent in any locality to secure its business by the harsh, unequal and uneconomic method of rate cutting.

Co-operation with the companies on all things which contribute to their protection, to the welfare and improvement of the real underwriting agent and the maintenance of the American Agency System.

Established 1806. Charter Perpetual.

100th Annual Statement Dec. 31, 1905.

THE EAGLE FIRE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

Home Office: Beaver Building, New York City.

Increase in assets	$449,665.41
Increase in reserves	351,501.14
Increase in net surplus	98,164.27
Capital	$300,000.00
Reserve for unearned premiums	281,829.29
Reserve for losses	41,751.85
Reserve for unclaimed dividends	2,826.24
Reserve for contingencies and taxes	25,000.00
NET SURPLUS	376,072.32
GROSS ASSETS	$1,031,479.70
Net premiums written during 1905	$499,617.25
Expenses	$196,730.31
Losses incurred	95,110.73

Loss ratio—19.0%.
Expense ratio—39.4%.

Theo. H. Price, President.
Melville E. Ingalls, Jr., Vice-President.
Wm. G. Whilden, Secretary & Managing Underwriter.
S. S. Walstrum. Assistant Secretary.
Chas. R. Watson, Supt. of Agencies.

AGENTS WANTED.

1829 Charter Perpetual. 1906

Franklin Fire Insurance Co.

OF

PHILADELPHIA.

Capital	$400,000.00
Insurance Reserve	1,594,425.36
Unpaid Losses, etc	74,153.54
Net Surplus	996,672.18
Total Assets, January 1, 1906	$3,065,251.08

OFFICERS:

JAS. W. McALLISTER, President.
GEORGE F. REGER, Vice President.
EZRA T. CRESSON, Secretary.
SAMUEL K. REGER, Assist. Secretary.

DIRECTORS:

James W. McAllister, George A. Heyl, George Fales Baker, M. D., John Sailer, George F. Reger, Joseph Moore, Jr., Harry A. Berwind, Samuel Y. Heebner, Andrew F. Derr, John Story Jenks.

AGENCY DEPARTMENT,

ROBERT H. WASS, Manager,
JOHN M. DREDGER, Secretary.

SUCCESSFUL LIFE INSURANCE MEN

wishing to secure a first class contract with a continuous renewal interest should communicate with

Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

New policy forms with special features very attractive to prospective insurers.

FOR FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS

C. H. JACKSON, Agency Secretary.

[FIRE]

German American Insurance Company New York.

CAPITAL

$1,500,000

NET SURPLUS

5,841,907

ASSETS

12,980,705

Germania Fire Insurance Co.

Southeast Corner of William and Cedar Streets, New York.

STATEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1905.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Premium Reserve	2,524,219.17
Reserve for Losses under Adjustment	182,967.55
Reserve for all other Claims	6,287.51
Net Surplus	2,639,225.50
Total Assets	$6,352,699.73

HUGO SCHUMANN, Pres't.

FR. VON BERNUTH, GEO. B. EDWARDS, Vice-Presidents.

CHARLES RUYKHAVER, GUSTAV KHER, Secretaries.

C. H. Buuker, President. Franklin H. Head, Vice-President.
A. A. Smith, Secretary, H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.

Continental Casualty Company

POLICIES ARE PROTECTED by more than ONE MILLION DOLLARS ASSETS.

Capital Stock, $300,000.00

Accident and Health Insurance

General Offices, Chicago.

OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS paid in claims to 175,000 of our POLICYHOLDERS.

GOOD CONTRACTS IN GOOD TERRITORY TO GOOD MEN

Producers, address H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr. 134 Monroe Street, Chicago.

QUEEN

Ins. Co. of America.

NEW YORK.

THE TRAVELERS INSURANCE CO.

Hartford, Connecticut.

S. E. DUNHAM, President.

FINANCIAL CONDITION JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets.

Railroad Bonds and Stocks	$24,865,959.24
Loans secured by Mortgages, first liens	9,909,991.49
Government and other Public Bonds	4,052,602.00
Other Bonds and Stocks	1,471,575.00
Loans secured by Company's Policies	3,207,626.89
Cash on hand and in Bank	1,231,835.75
Bank Stocks	1,122,263.00
Loans secured by Collateral	868,129.34
Home Office Real Estate	477,876.89
Other Real Estate	419,473.14
Interest accrued but not due	630,847.10
Deferred Life Premiums	466,717.29
Premiums in course of collection on Life Policies	235,182.27
Total Assets	**$48,960,079.40**

Reserves and All Other Liabilities.

Reserve Funds, to protect Policyholders	$42,113,572.42
Losses in process of adjustment	341,160.41
Life Premiums paid in advance	50,388.11
Special Reserve for taxes, rents, etc	101,100.74
Surplus to Policyholders	6,353,857.72
Total Reserves, etc	**$48,960,079.40**

RECORD OF 1905.

Total Cash Income	$13,895,000
Increase in Cash Income	1,355,000
Increase in Assets	4,503,000
Increase in Surplus to Policyholders	518,000
New Life Insurance "paid for"	20,694,310
Increase in Reserve Funds to Protect Policyholders	3,858,000
Paid to Policyholders	5,721,000

RECORD TO END OF 1905.

Paid to Policyholders, over	$65,000,000
Life Insurance in Force, paid for basis	155,286,000
Number of Accident Policies Issued	3,984,000
Number of Accident Claims Paid	451,000

The Williamsburgh City

Fire Insurance Co.

OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL STATEMENT.

January 1, 1906.

NET SURPLUS	$1,492,093.03
Reserved for Reinsurance	1,004,604.43
Unpaid Losses, etc	104,511.91
Capital	250,000.00
	$2,851,209.37

ASSETS.

Real Estate	$672,929.76	
Bonds and Mortgages	237,100.00	
Stocks and Bonds	1,413,345.00	
Loans on Call	44,250.00	
Cash	301,902.08	
Premiums Due	157,483.77	
Interest Accrued	18,887.31	
Rents Accrued and Other Items	5,311.45	
		$2,851,209.37

Book Value of Stock, 696.80.

OFFICES:

Cor. Broadway and Kent Avenue, E. D.,
and 156 Montague Street, W. D., Brooklyn.
No. 150 Broadway, New York.

MARSHALL S. DRIGGS, President.

FREDERICK H. WAY, Secretary. F. H. DOUGLASS, General Agent.

W. H. BROWN, B. W. LYON, Assistant Secretaries.

Policies issued under provisions of the Safety Fund Law of the State of New York.

NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF

HARTFORD, CONN.

STATEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets.

Bonds and Stocks	$5,428,774.00
Loans on Bond and Mortgage	655,350.00
Real Estate unincumbered	333,571.84
Cash on hand and in banks	351,393.96
Cash in hands of Agents	535,869.16
Total Assets	$7,304,958.96

Liabilities.

Capital Stock	$1,000,000.00
Reserve for Reinsurance	3,483,034.78
Reserve for Unpaid Losses	357,618.70
Special Reserve	150,000.00
Net Surplus	2,314,305.48
	$7,304,958.96

Surplus to Policyholders, $3,314,305.48

DIRECTORS:

Frank W. Cheney,	Francis T. Maxwell,	James P. Taylor,
James Nichols,	Byron A. Simmons,	L. A. Barbour,
John R. Buck,	Chas. N. Briscoe,	Fred S. James,
Henry C. Judd,	Ralph H. Ensign,	Jos. L. Blanchard.

JAMES NICHOLS, President.

B. R. STILLMAN, Secretary.

H. A. SMITH, Asst. Secretary.

G. H. TYRON, Second Asst. Secretary.

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 11 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis and Cleveland.

ASSETS, $128,094,315.24

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1904 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $103 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1904:

391 per day in number of Claims Paid.
6,561 per day in number of Policies issued.
$1,426,700.50 per day in New Insurance Written.
$114,060.67 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.
$73,326.81 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks,	$64,270,818.12
Bonds and Mortgages,	33,094,145.00
Real Estate,	16,806,932.86
Cash,	7,323,372.74
Loans to Policyholders,	2,889,649.63
Premiums deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,246,081.13
Accrued Interest, Rents, etc.	463,315.76
	$128,094,315.24

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves,	$112,351,323.00
All other Liabilities,	907,772.25
Capital and Surplus,	14,835,219.99
	$128,094,315.24

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security, ... $277,290,466.48

Number of Policies in Force, . . . 8,029,906

Amount of Outstanding Insurance, . . $1,470,424,281.00 Amount of Insurance Issued in 1904, . . $436,570,349.00

RECORD OF GROWTH IN TEN YEAR PERIODS:

Income.	Assets.	Surplus.	Pols. in Force.	Outstanding Ins.
1884—$2,915,937.86	$2,304,004.87	$613,120.25	675,477	$77,658,420.00—1884
1894—18,208,742.75	22,326,622.16	4,034,028.21	3,574,909	441,375,367.00—1894
1904—55,985,756.91	128,094,315.24	14,835,219.99	8,029,906	1,470,424,281.00—1904

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS:

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice Pres.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di.
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di.
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

THE STANDARD LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY OF DETROIT, MICH.

INCORPORATED 1884.

All forms of Accident, Sickness and Liability Insurance.

D. M. FERRY, PRESIDENT.
E. A. LEONARD, SECRETARY.
W. C. MAYBURY, MNG. DIRECTOR.

Cash Capital, $250,000.00

C. A. TIMEWELL, Mgr. Metropolitan Dept., 92 William St. N. Y. City.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.

United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1904	$2,617,755.75
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,406,159.17
Joint Stock Capital	500,000.00

CHARTERED 1866.

Hartford Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

Up to date in business methods—in contracts—in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.

$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.

Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.

INVESTIGATE

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1905

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance. The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy. Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

The Mutual Benefit LIFE INSURANCE CO.

NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

ASSETS (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1905,	$93,237,790.27
LIABILITIES,	85,918,227.30
SURPLUS,	7,319,562.97

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY

OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

NEW YORK OFFICE:

68 WILLIAM STREET.

SUN

Insurance Office of London

FOUNDED 1710.

United States Branch: 54 Pine St., New York.

Western Department: 171 La Salle St., Chicago.
Pacific Department: 215 Sansome St., San Francisco.

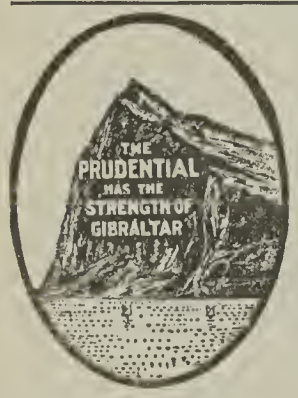
Provident Life and Trust Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. **THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY** invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables

Every Man Interested

in selecting a profession that offers the greatest prospect of success should read the booklet, "CAREERS FOR THE COMING MEN," by Hon. JOHN F. DRYDEN. It is a practical discussion of the opportunities offered in the field of life insurance. A copy will be sent free upon request.



The Prudential

Insurance Company of America.

Incorporated as a stock company by the State of New Jersey.

Home Office: Newark, N. J. JOHN F. DRYDEN, President.

Prudential Agents are money makers. Open territory for energetic men. The Grand Prize was awarded the Prudential at the St. Louis Exposition.

INCORPORATED 1865.

GERMAN INSURANCE CO.

OF FREEPORT, ILL.

The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$5,546,127.97
Cash Capital,	200,000.00
Liabilities, including reinsurance,	3,617,361.34
NET SURPLUS,	1,728,766.63

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

"The Leading Fire Insurance Company of America."

Incorporated 1819. Charter Perpetual.

Cash Capital	$4,000,000.00
Cash Assets	16,815,296.87
Total Liabilities	5,779,285.94
Net Surplus	7,036,010.93
Surplus as to Policyholders	11,036,010.93
Losses Paid in 87 Years	102,847,801.66

WM. B. CLARK, President.
W. H. KING, Secretary.
A. C. ADAMS, HENRY E. REES, A. N. WILLIAMS, Assistant Secretaries.

WESTERN BRANCH, Traction Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.
KEELER & GALLAGHER, General Agents.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH, Omaha, Neb.
WM. H. WYMAN, Gen. Agent. W. P. HARFORD, Ass't Gen. Agent.

PACIFIC BRANCH, San Francisco, Cal.
BOARDMAN & SPENCER, General Agents.

INLAND MARINE DEPARTMENT.

CHICAGO, 145 La Salle St. NEW YORK, 93 and 95 Wiliam St.
BOSTON, 70 Kilby St. PHILADELPHIA, 226 Walnut St.

Head Office for the United States:

57 and 59 William Street,

NEW YORK.

A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Manager.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.

LIMITED,
OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York

INCORPORATED 1851.

The Berkshire Life Insurance Company,

OF PITTSFIELD, Mass.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. JAMES M. BARKER, Vice-Pres.
J. M. LEE, Actuary. THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec.
ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Secy

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846—1905.

On January 1st, 1905, **The Connecticut Mutual** had received from its members $232,759,294.33. It had returned to them $234,353,488.98, or **$1,594,224.65** more than the amount received from them. It had assets on hand of $65,224,841.53, and a surplus of $4,828,696.64 with which to meet a liability, actual and contingent, of $60,396,144.89 on $167,167,515.00 at risk on 70,454 policies. Except in the possible case of some society or concern with only a local and slight membership, no comparable results have been accomplished by any other American Life Insurance Company.

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President.
HENRY S. ROBINSON, Vice-President.

HERBERT H. WHITE, Secretary.
DANIEL H. WELLS, Actuary.

1825. THE 1905.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,443,725.09
Surplus	2,585,263.42
Total January 1, 1905	$6,428,988.51

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

London Assurance Corporation,

CHARTERED A. D. 1720.

SURPLUS IN U. S. JAN. 1, 1905, $831,256.62

CHAS. LYMAN CASE, Manager.
61 Pine Street, NEW YORK.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410,42	$11,290.773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary.
EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

New-York Life Insurance Co.

ALEXANDER E. ORR, President.

BALANCE SHEET, JANUARY 1, 1906.

ASSETS.

Government, State, City, County and other Bonds (market value, $323,445,367), cost value, December 31, 1905... (Company does not include in Assets the excess $5,448,472 of market value of Bonds owned over cost.)	$317,996,895
Bonds and Mortgages (370 first liens)	25,586,614
Deposits in 475 Banks throughout the world	14,717,929
Loans to Policyholders on Policies as security (reserve value thereof, $65,000,000)	45,406,669
Real Estate, twenty-three pieces (including eleven office buildings, valued at $10,940,000)	14,021,863
Quarterly and Semi-Annual Premiums not yet due, reserve charged in Liabilities	4,130,174
Premium Notes on Policies in force (Legal Reserve to secure same $6,000,000)	3,682,341
Premiums in transit, Reserve charged in Liabilities	4,107,578
Interest and Rents Accrued	2,864,266
Loans on Bonds (market value, $4,242,900)	3,250,000
Due Company on account of reinsurance	56,000
Total Assets	$435,820,359

LIABILITIES.

Policy Reserve (per certificate of New York Insurance Department)		$375,082,390
All other Liabilities on Policies, Annuities, Endowments, etc., awaiting presentation for payment		7,902,343
Reserve on Policies which the Company voluntarily set aside in excess of the State's requirements	$7,208,412	
Reserve to provide Dividends payable to Policyholders during 1906 and thereafter, as the periods mature:		
To holders of 20-Year Period Policies and longer	29,180,987	
To holders of 15-Year Period Policies	5,134,428	
To holders of 10-Year Period Policies	321,016	
To holders of 7-Year Period Policies	128,177	
To holders of 5-Year Period Policies	417,068	
To holders of Annual Dividend Policies	896,497	
Reserve to provide for all other contingencies	9,549,051	
Total (not including $5,448,472 excess of market value of Bonds owned over cost)		52,835,626
Total Liabilities		$435,820,359

Income of 1905	$102,630,863.85
Loaned Policyholders during 1905	17,164,702.71
Paid Policyholders during 1905	40,262,039.83
Increase in Assets during 1905	45,160,099.58
Number of Policies paid for during 1905, 157,540; representing new insurance of	296,640,854.00
Outstanding Insurance at end of 1905	2,061,593,886.00
Increase in Insurance in Force during 1905	132,000,000.00
Decrease in expenses in 1905 over the preceding year, more than	1,000,000.00

The affairs of the Company are now being officially examined by the States of Kentucky, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin and Tennessee. In addition, Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co., of London, and Messrs. Haskins & Sells, of New York, Chartered Accountants, are now conducting an examination and audit of the Company's accounts for the last calendar year and are preparing a statement of the Company's financial condition as of December 31, 1905.

Concerning the work they have already accomplished, they have made the following certificate:

TO THE NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, New York:

Under instructions received from the Committee appointed by the Trustees to investigate the affairs of this Company, we are conducting an examination and audit of its accounts for the last calendar year, and are preparing a statement of its financial condition as of December 31, 1905.

We have at this date verified the following assets:

INVESTMENTS IN BONDS.—We have examined and counted $272,465,225.19 par value of the Bonds owned by the Company deposited in the vaults at the Home Office, and have inspected the documentary evidence in the Company's possession of additional Bonds deposited with State and foreign governments amounting to $46,585,-842.99 par value. These will in due course be verified by certificates which the custodians have been requested to furnish.

The total par value of these Bonds is $319,051,068.18; the book value is $317,996,895.44, and the market value, which we have verified, is $323,445,367.62.

MORTGAGE LOANS ON REAL ESTATE.—We have compared the Real Estate Loans on Mortgage with the documents on file, consisting of the Bond and Mortgage given by the mortgagor. These loans amount to $25,586,644.21.

LOANS ON COLLATERAL.—We have examined the collateral or Certificates of Depositories therefore held by the Company to secure these loans, which amount to $3,250,000.00. The market value of the securities deposited amounts to $4,242,900.00; and

We Hereby Certify that these Assets agree with the books of the Company and are correct; we are now verifying the remainder of the Assets.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.
By A. Lowes Dickinson, F. C. A., F. I. A., C. P. A. (Ill.)

HASKINS & SELLS,
Certified Public Accountants.
By Elijah W. Sells, C. P. A.

New York, January 6, 1906.

The Company publishes for the information of its policyholders a detailed description of its Assets in pamphlet form which will be mailed to any address upon request.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1906. No. 4.

Published every Saturday by the Underwriter Printing and Publishing Company.

Subscription price: Five Dollars per annum in advance.

All communications should be addressed to THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William Street, New York.

Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

AN index to the seventy-third volume, which closed with the issue of December 30, 1905, accompanies this week's paper.

IN the New York Legislature this week one of our local Assemblymen, a Mr. Hackett, introduced a bill to require all classes of insurance companies, whether domestic or otherwise, doing business in the State, to pay into the State Treasury all their earning over 5 per cent., for distribution among our charitable institutions. Imprisonment of not less than five years, five thousand dollars fine and forfeiture of charter, for all persons and corporations offending, are the prescribed penalties. In Virginia Senator Lassiter has a bill which provides that fire insurance agents in that State shall receive as large commissions from their companies as are paid to agents in any other States. In Massachusetts Mr. Mellen wants a special committee appointed to ascertain if there are too many insurance companies in existence, with power to send for persons and papers. We read in our esteemed contemporary, the *Journalist,* that a gentleman in Kansas named Neal is advocating the building of our battle ships of soft rubber.

THE Ames bill which is introduced in Congress "to provide Federal regulation of insurance" seeks to do so by indirection. It proceeds on the assumption that no insurance company, American or foreign, doing an agency business will dare to risk its reputation for solvency and square management by staying out of the District of Columbia after the bill becomes a law. Consequently all will be corralled in the District, and can be supervised by the Federal Bureau of Insurance, for which the bill provides. It has a number of good features, which are already in force in most of the States, and others which will meet with strong objection from some companies, and on the whole is rather a thing of shreds and patches, but capable, of course, of improvement. As it antagonizes the whole theory of the Dryden bill, which would substitute national supervision for that of the individual States, and in its present form would add to instead of take from the burdens which present over-supervision imposes, the Ames bill will have to count upon the support neither of the Federal supervisionists nor the radical anti-Federal supervisionists. One of its weaknesses is that it assumes too much. It is by no means true that insurance companies would stay in the District to protect their character. The best of them, which need no national stamp to certify to their ability to do right and meet their contracts, might withhold their presence in a body, and the law would practically become of local significance only.

THE Life Insurance Conference at Chicago next week will be dignified by the attendance of the Governors of at least a dozen States, of as many State attorneys general, of the heads of the insurance departments of nearly all the States and of representatives of the National Life Underwriters' Association. It will have the further advantage of President Roosevelt's encouragement—no small factor in commanding the attention and respect of the American public. The meeting therefore will be an event of some importance. But as the powers of the conference are only advisory, the results will carry only such moral weight as the delegates may atttach to them in reporting them to their respective States. Such a meeting will inevitably attract men of different minds as to methods of insurance reform, who will endeavor to impress their views upon the conference. And here, we think, is the crucial point upon which the success of the conference depends. Its value will be weakened in the proportion that its counsels lack harmony and uniformity. If there are disputes over such questions as the gain and loss exhibit, the deferred dividend system, the annual distribution of surplus and Federal supervision of insurance, and the opinion of the conference upon any or all of them is forced by a majority vote, the final effect of the meeting will be negative, for no delegate will feel bound to recommend to his constituency measures of which he still disapproves. The safety of the convention will be contingent therefore on an avoidance of the radical action which is being advocated by some of the insurance commissioners who announce their intention of being present and an agreement upon broad principles of reform to which no one can consistently or reasonably object.

THE annual address of the president of the Connecticut Mutual Life insurance company to its members appears in THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER this week for the twenty-seventh consecutive time. It was first printed in our issue of February 14, 1880—the fourth issue after this paper became a weekly and assumed its present title. Every year afterward, until last year, President Greene enforced the verity that the Connecticut Mutual is " a life insurance company"—only that. Writing in 1896, he said: "Fifty years ago a few men living in Hartford became interested in the then novel scheme of life insurance. They had no knowledge of its science, but were attracted by its promised result: the protection of the family against the money loss incurred through the death of its bread winner. A New England community, with its steady ways, its sobriety of temper and habit, its many homes sheltering industrious, frugal, thrifty households, its pervading sentiment of family affection and its strong

sense of duty, seemed to them a proper field for the promised beneficence. Not desiring to make money out of it, but simply to give this protection at its actual cost to all needing it, they determined to make a mutual company. And so the Connecticut Mutual Life insurance company was born. * * The Connecticut Mutual renews its plea for pure life insurance; that men whose families need it buy the only thing a life insurance company can really give, the full, absolute and simple protection needed; that they cease to gamble with it or try to make a speculation out of it; and to all such the company offers its best and most sincere endeavor, illustrated by its unparalleled record of fifty years." In the same issue in which this statement of absolute fact appeared, Mr. Hayden said, by way of editorial comment:

It has almost passed into a proverb that "men do not do business for their health," and as to corporations, a claim that one of them was in business for its health would be scouted. And yet there is one conspicuous example of a life insurance company which has just closed fifty years of corporate existence, and which is clearly and unmistakably in business for its health. That company is the Connecticut Mutual. Test its pulse at any time, and you will find it beating regularly; take its temperature, and you will find it normal; look at its strength and at the work it is doing and has done, and you will find the glow of health about it everywhere. Whether or not Colonel Greene's estimate of its founders is the right one, certain it is that they were frugal, and that they imparted to its youth a training in economy and carefulness that it has not departed from in its age.

The Connecticut Mutual, under President Taylor, is the same today that it was when the words we have quoted were written by men whose pens are now silent, and he repeats in like strain the simple story of the harvest of the great institution which began as—and has never been else than—"a life insurance company."

Facts and Opinions.

There was a large attendance of members at the annual meeting of the **New England Mutual Life insurance company** at its home office in Boston last Monday. From the sixty-second annual report presented by the directors, and showing substantial progress, conservative management and a continuance of public approval, the following is taken:

Since the last annual meeting, owing to the New York insurance investigation, the attention and interest of the general public have been keenly directed toward life insurance companies and their methods. The result would seem to justify your company in the position maintained by it from its earliest days, that a large business may be too dearly bought; that size is not necessarily a sign of strength, and that it is sometimes the wisest course to make haste slowly. The fact that the business of your company has largely increased, in spite of the excited state of public feeling upon the whole subject of life insurance, indicates that we are at last beginning to reap the reward of years of patient conservatism. A certain normal amount of new insurance, proportioned to the size of a company, is necessary to its healthy growth, and to a maintenance of its vitality gain, which is the chief element of its annual saving. The problem of how to get this necessary amount of new business at the least cost is the one which is chiefly occupying the minds of all who are in charge of the business of life insurance. There is every reason to hope that the attention which is now being given to the whole subject of life insurance will result in diminishing the competition for an abnormal volume of business which has heretofore existed among the large insurance companies, the immediate result of which will be the lowering of the cost of procuring new business to both large and small companies.

Benjamin F. Stevens, Thomas Sherwin and Alfred B. Foster were re-elected directors for three years. The assets as of January 1, 1906, were $40,702,692, an increase of $2,378,269 during the year, and the surplus of $4,102,421 included a gain of $416,295. The payments to policyholders last year aggregated $3,874,931; that is, $415,500 more than in 1904. The paid for new business of last year aggregated $21,444,523, embodying an increase of $2,395,297, while the amount in force, $164,728,147, includes an increase in round figures of $10,800,000.

The annual meeting of the **Suburban Underwriters' Association** of the metropolitan district **of Boston** took place at the American House last Tuesday, and, in view of prevailing dissatisfaction with present conditions, a large attendance was on hand with a view of seeing what could be done to better them. A motion recommending the formation of a new underwriting society which would have jurisdiction over Greater Boston outside of the limits of the city proper was carried without a dissenting voice. The object of this was to secure independence from the jurisdiction of the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters and the New England Insurance Exchange, and add a third board which could manage the territory referred to without supervision by the first named. The situation was probably precipitated by the proposed commission agreement formulated by the Boston Board and affecting the "suburban" agents of the metropolitan district several months ago, but which has not as yet received sufficient ratifying support to go into effect. The suburban agents wish that the companies shall directly appoint one policy writing agent in each locality, and hope thereby to eliminate a large number of unnecessary hangers-on to the business. For the purposes of harmony it is proposed that a joint committee from all three organizations shall consider matters of common interest. A committee was appointed at this meeting to formulate a plan for the proposed new departure for submission to the companies.

The annual statement of **Lloyds Plate Glass insurance company** of New York is evidence of the value of specializing in insurance. The company's assets in 1904 were $808,825.78, while according to the statement of December 31, 1905, the assets amount to $860,168.15. The latest statement also shows a net surplus of $316,750.08, as compared with $289,257.44 in 1904. Add to this the company's capital of $250,000, and it has at present a surplus to policyholders of $566,750.08. A substantial increase is also shown in the reserve, from $240,147.76 in 1904 to $250,152.19 in 1905. Net premiums received in 1905 were $444,003.54, compared with $431,873.46 in 1904, and the total income was $477,745.44, a gain over the previous year of $13,820.75. The company's disbursements in 1904 were $422,700.24, while last year they amounted to $423,669.29. This increase is due to the fact that dividends increased last year to $50,000, $10,000 more than the year previous, so that actual expenses were about $9,000 less in 1905 than in 1904. The ratio of expenses incurred to net premiums received in 1905 is 54.48 per cent., and the ratio of net losses incurred to premiums received is 31.74 per cent. During 1905 the company incurred losses to the number of 7,327. Lloyds Plate Glass is officered by William T. Woods, president; Geo. M. Alcott, vice president, and C. E. W. Chambers, secretary, whose careful management has brought the company through each successive year with excellent financial gains over the year preceding.

The **Wisconsin Legislative Investigation** Committee has been getting into shape at Madison, and will begin on the Wisconsin Mutual Life and follow with the Northwestern Mutual. The investigation is limited to life companies. Dr. Charles McCarthy has been employed to prepare a digest of the laws on insurance for the aid of the committee. No prosecuting attorney will be employed by the committee for some time, at least not until the taking of testimony is begun. R. M. Bashford and H. Y. Chynoweth have been suggested for this office. A sub-committee of three members—Senators Frear and Roehr and Assemblyman Ekern—was ap-

pointed by the committee to go to New York and confer with members of the Armstrong Legislative Committee. This sub-committee will be ready to report to the investigating committee in about two weeks. The investigating committee appointed another sub-committee, Senator Rummel and Assemblymen Potter, Braddock and Beedle, to inquire into fraternal insurance in Wisconsin, or rather to map out a plan which may be followed by the whole committee in looking into the methods and transactions of this species of organizations.

The question "to supervise or not to supervise," so far as it relates to the national regulation of insurance, was threshed over again Friday evening of last week before the **Library Insurance Association of Boston.** Mr. Frederick H. Nash, former Assistant Attorney General of Massachusetts, repeated his now well known views as to the non-feasibility of Federal supervision. While admitting that there is much to be desired in State supervision, Mr. Nash apprehends that things might be a great deal worse under Federal regulation. In regard to the President's attitude he said: "I have it on good authority that President Roosevelt is sorry he spoke as he did about Federal supervision being an affair of Congress. After advice from prominent lawyers in Washington that this cannot be had under the Constitution, he is supporting a measure for the enactment of a law affecting the transaction of insurance business in the District of Columbia, which may serve as a model and a nucleus around which may be built a system of more uniform laws which will greatly benefit the insurance business." The Federal supervision side was championed by Mr. Frederick L. Hoffman, statistician of the Prudential Life.

The **Life Underwriters' Association of New York** met at the Underwriters' Club on last Saturday, about 150 members being present. President Ward presided and President Scoville, of the National Association, made the leading address. The principal topic of discussion was rebating. W. C. Johnson, a member of the executive committee of the local association, outlined a plan for the organization of an anti-rebate bureau, which was indorsed by the meeting and signed by a majority of those present. The following anti-rebate pledge was signed by eighty-four managers and agents:

We, the undersigned, agree to co-operate in the organization of an anti-rebate bureau, the only obligations of membership in which, to which obligations we hereby subscribe, shall be as follows:

First—That the subscriber will not hereafter grant rebates, either indirectly or directly.

Second—That whenever in his solicitation the subscriber runs across a case in which he has reason to believe a rebate has been given, he will report the name of the policyholder receiving the rebate and such information as he may be able to ascertain concerning the incident, including the name of the rebating company or agent, if possible, to the clerk of the bureau.

In **the suit of Mary S. Young,** a policyholder of the Equitable Life, against that company, brought by Senator Brackett as counsel, Justice Kellogg, of the New York Supreme Court at Saratoga, on Tuesday overruled the demurrer interposed by James H. Hyde to the plaintiff's complaint. Mr. Hyde's demurrer was by agreement chosen for trial as embodying the demurrers of all the other directors. The demurrer averred that the complaint did not constitute a cause of action, that causes of action were improperly united, and that the plaintiff was barred by Section 56 of the Insurance Law from bringing suit without the consent of the Attorney General. Justice Kellogg in his decision finds that "the commission of actual wrong by some of the defendant directors, with resulting damage to the society, has been stated in such unmistakable terms that no doubt remains of their liability to the society conceding the facts alleged to be true, and also that the other directors were guilty through negligence." The decision finds that the causes of action were properly united.

The executive committee of the **International Association of Accident Underwriters,** at its recent meeting, practically reached the conclusion that a **standard accident policy** is impossible under existing conditions. A form was proposed, based upon the old general policies formerly sold at $4 per $1,000, to be used as a basis at an agreed price; an agreed price being charged for all the additional features attached to this. Not enough companies could be induced to accept this form to give any show of success, and the matter was deferred for later consideration, which is regarded as shelving it. At the last annual meeting of the International Association a **standard form of manual** was adopted, which was prepared by William G. Faxon, of the Ætna. It now develops that in spite of the unanimous adoption and general commendation at the convention very few companies have adopted the manual for general use or have subscribed for a sufficient number of copies to defray the expense.

It seems to be the opinion of many New York fire underwriters who have been interviewed upon the subject that the present disposition to air in the public press **the finding of the joint committee** of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters and the New York Fire Insurance Exchange is ill advised. They believe that a wiser course of action would be to let the committee conduct its investigation behind closed doors until it has thoroughly completed its work. The report can then be made public if deemed best, or, better still, the recommendations of the committee may be acted upon and the report need not be published outside the Board and Exchange. It is an easy matter to stir up the public, with its crude ideas about fire insurance management, and it is very difficult to quiet apprehensions once they become aroused. Better the use of a little discretion in the beginning than to have to resort to elaborate explanations later on.

The annual meeting of the **Granite State Fire insurance company** was held at the home office of the company in Portsmouth, N. H., on Wednesday. It was voted to abolish the office of treasurer and hereafter the president, Calvin Page, will be in charge of financial matters. The annual statement presented to the stockholders showed that the company had made substantial progress during the past year. The net premiums received were $464,519, an increase of $55,788, the total income being $485,395, a gain of $51,553. The total payments during 1905, however, decreased by $4,045, aggregating $386,457. The Granite State now has well invested assets of $779,308, a gain of $93,308, and a net surplus above all liabilities of $200,396, which is some $72,664 larger than that held at the beginning of last year.

Five special agents of fire insurance companies, all operating in Kansas, were on trial in the District Court in Atchison this week on charges of violating the **Kansas anti-trust law.** They are W. H. Lininger, Topeka, representing the Springfield Fire and Marine; Frank Mauritzius, Omaha, representing the Fire Association of Philadelphia; R. D. Air, Topeka, representing the Phenix of Brooklyn; H. A. Bush, Kansas City, representing the Hartford Fire, and Will I. Drum, Topeka, representing the German-American. They were arrested last month, as the result of a rate war, on affidavits sworn out by local agents of non-Union companies. After a trial lasting nearly the week out the case went to the

jury, which promptly disagreed and was finally discharged by the court. Another trial is probable.

Liability insurance companies doing business in Boston will be interested in a curious letter sent by Mayor Fitzgerald to the board of trustees of the City Hospital, the text of which is subjoined:

It has been called to my attention that the City Hospital at the present time and in the past has not received remuneration from liability insurance companies for aid rendered at the City Hospital to holders of policies of these companies. It has been further laid before me that these same companies contract to pay for medical services, and that private physicians are paid for services rendered to any policyholder. It is estimated that the city would derive an increased revenue of $50,000 annually were the liability insurance companies to make payment to the city for all services rendered policyholders. I desire to be informed whether or not the city receives any money from liability insurance companies, and whether or not it is right to demand same; also an estimate as to the amount of revenue the city would receive should these insurance companies pay for all services rendered their policyholders at the City Hospital and Relief Station.

Writs of mandamus have been issued against Insurance Commissioner Upson, of Connecticut, by the Superior Court at Hartford on application of the New York Life and the Metropolitan Life. The Commissioner is cited to appear in court and show cause why he should not **refund** to the companies certain **overpaid taxes** for the years 1901, 1902 and 1903. The New York Life claims that the sum of $34,871 is due on overpaid taxes, and the Metropolitan about $14,000. This action is the result of the refusal of Commissioner Upson to allow the claims for overpaid taxes based on an act of the Legislature of 1905. He did allow a claim of the Mutual Life of New York in part, awarding $10,969.

The California Insurance Commissioner reports a **large falling off in new life insurance written** in that State last year. The new business of the Equitable Life is shown to have fallen from $7,272,650 to $3,148,930. The Mutual Life of New York shows new business in 1905 of $2,800,535, as compared with $5,244,439 in 1904. The new business of the New York Life fell from $8,586,099 to $6,740,290. Some of the other reductions in the volume of new business secured in California are as follows: Prudential of Newark, from $1,280,376 to $735,912; Ætna Life, from $2,196,725 to $1,429,050; Penn Mutual, from $2,337,568 to $1,601,830; Security Trust and Life of Philadelphia, from $1,001,490 to $132,000.

An invitation having been extended by Chairman Drake, of the **Chicago Insurance Convention** of February 1, on behalf of the committee of arrangements, to the National Association of Life Underwriters to send delegates to the convention, President Scoville has made the following appointments: R. F. Shedden, Atlanta; George Benham, St. Louis; Mr. McMullen, Syracuse; E. J. Clark, Baltimore; R. E. Cochran, New York; Philip H. Farley, New York; I. Layton Register, Philadelphia, and E. H. Plummer, Philadelphia. One additional appointment is to be made. The delegates are invited to dine with the committee of arrangements on January 29.

Reports of dissensions between the special investigating committee of trustees of the Mutual Life and the officers and members of the finance committee are denied by Chairman Truesdale, of the former. In a statement to the press he says:

It is untrue that the requests of our committee have not been answered in any serious way. While certain of the records of the supply department have not been found, all reasonable efforts of the officers of the company whose attention has been called to the missing documents have been, as I believe, exerted to find and produce them, and all witnesses that could give any information as to the whereabouts of these records or on any other subject upon which our committee has asked information have been furnished.

At a meeting of the directors of the new **Bankers' Reserve Fund Life** insurance company of Cincinnati on Thursday of last week Judge Aaron McNeill was elected president and Charles L. Ainswood vice president. Judge McNeill, in accepting the office of president, said that he regarded it as a stepping stone, and being now president of a life insurance company, he had reason to expect that he would some day be a Governor. He succeeds John L. Jones. Other officers are: F. B. Ainsworth, secretary and general manager; George E. Morrell, treasurer; Dr. T. V. Fitzpatrick, medical director. Judge J. B. Swing is the other director.

The **Glens Falls insurance company** makes its fifty-sixth annual statement this year, and it shows assets of $4,515,081.38 and net surplus over all liabilities of $2,594,064.99. The following is a general statement for the year: Net premiums exceed losses paid, taxes and expenses, $217,256.79; decrease in unpaid losses, $19,815.61; earnings of assets, $196,287.20; aggregate gain, $433,359.60; increase in unearned premiums, $106,418.83; dividends paid during 1905, $70,000; reserve for dividends, $120,000; increase in other liabilities, $31,500; depreciation and profit and loss, $4,558.86; total, $332,477.69; increase in net surplus, $100,881.91.

The late general agent of the Equitable Life at Joliet, Ill., Robert E. Ward, is **a fugitive from justice.** Warrants are out accusing him of forgeries amounting to over $20,000. Ward was a prominent citizen of Joliet, and several months ago made a proposition to the various Masonic bodies there, claiming that it came from the Equitable Life, to give $20,000 to erect a new Masonic Temple if the Masons would take insurance through him aggregating $1,000,000. He borrowed money on notes which he claimed were given him on this project, all of which are now found to have been forged.

To satisfy the insurance companies that **Robert K. Dargan,** who was reported to have died from an overdose of carbolic acid at Spartanburg, S. C., after collapse of the Independent Cotton Oil Company, was actually dead and had not run away, the body was exhumed on Friday of last week in the presence of five prominent local physicians, who conducted a post mortem examination and positively identified the body as that of Dargan, as well as verified the cause of his death. Representatives of the insurance companies were present.

The *Insurance Field* discusses the **Federal supervision movement** in Congress, and records this conclusion:

All these points aside, it appears probable enough that no final action will be taken by Congress at this session. The movement does not seem strong even in the House. With a few exceptions the question has been seized on only by blatherskites and demagogues as a hook upon which to hang passionate denunciations of life insurance officials for home consumption. If we were looking around for a safe bet payable in large red apples it would be put on the proposition that robins will nest several times before the General Government takes control of interstate insurance.

The Cleveland stock broker, **Leland W. Prior,** who committed suicide after extensive forgeries had been discovered, **carried $100,000 life insurance,** of which $70,000 was in the New York Life and $10,000 each in the Berkshire, Penn Mutual and New England Mutual. All have been in force long enough to escape the suicide clause. He is believed to have had suicide in mind, for he recently refused to consider a policy in another company because he did not like the suicide clause.

Notwithstanding the reports that **President Cleveland** will resign the post of **referee in rebate cases** for the three largest life insurance companies, being imbued with remorse and disgust with himself for having accepted a $12,000 office in the insurance business, the following authoritative denial was dictated by him to an inquiring reporter at his Princeton residence on Thursday evening:

There is not a particle of truth in the report nor any excuse for its circulation.

The **Globe and Rutgers Fire** insurance company of New York has entered Virginia and West Virginia, and has appointed the Southern General Agency at Bluefield, W. Va., its agents for those States. F. L. Lockwood, formerly special agent of the Phenix of Brooklyn, is manager of the new agency. The entrance of the Globe and Rutgers into the Virginias is a new departure for that company, which has heretofore kept out of the "special deposit States."

The **Springfield Fire and Marine** makes its usual satisfying statement of business during the preceding year. The total assets are now $7,156,531.72 and the net surplus $2,024,000.40. The assets have increased $709,633, and the net surplus $449.014, and the reinsurance reserve increased $276,625. The above was after charging off $100,000 on the new building. Premiums written amounted to $3,788,136, an increase of $287,530, with a loss ratio of only 45.47 per cent.

At a meeting of the Baltimore Association of Fire Underwriters there was registered a **kick against New York brokers.** The following resolution was passed:

Whereas, The fire insurance agents in Baltimore are subject to the unfair competition of New York brokers, who are cutting our board rates,

It is therefore Resolved, That our companies shall be notified that we propose to hold our business against this competition and request that they express to us their opinions on this subject and further request that they use their utmost endeavors to remedy this growing evil.

In order to protect ignorant negroes, State Insurance Commissioner Young, of North Carolina, has addressed a circular letter to the secretaries of the fifty-three lodges of the **Independent Order of Good Samaritans** and Daughters of Samaria in that State, ordering them to fade away. The concern has no legal right to do business in the State, according to the Commissioner. The headquarters are at Washington, D. C.

Over 200 tents of the **Knights of the Maccabees** met in Chicago January 18 and decided to continue their fight **against the recent increase in rates.** Efforts will be made to reorganize the order at the triennial convention to be held in July, 1907, and to repeal the new tariff. Charges were made that the Supreme Tent had expended $50,000 more for expenses last year than were received in the expense fund.

The **Fidelity and Casualty Company** of New York has refused payment on a $5,000 accident policy carried on Charles A. Edwards, the New York man who was found dead in bed in New Haven recently under "mysterious circumstances." As Edwards carried insurance of at least $15,000, other companies will follow the lead of the Fidelity and suits by the widow are expected.

The Dominion Executive Committee of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, at a meeting on Thursday of last week, passed a resolution asking the Dominion Government to appoint a commission to conduct a thorough **investigation into the fire insurance business of Canada,** with a view of recommending legislation that will insure the largest measure of Federal control, and so protect the large interests involved.

Suit has been begun by the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Company against the Chicago House Wrecking Company and the **American Bonding Company** because of alleged failure of the wrecking company to complete the work on certain buildings according to specifications and within the time limit. The American Bonding Company guaranteed the contract of the House Wrecking Company in the amount of $50,000.

The **Provident Savings Life** insurance company of New York is now being examined by the New York Insurance Department. Some changes are being made in the official force, and among the new appointments are those of F. N. Arvin, H. E. Marshall and W. A. Buckley as assistant secretaries. They have all been connected with the company for several years. E. R. Tillinghast has been made temporary secretary.

The London *Insurance Record* says that close upon 200 private bills will come before **Parliament** in the forthcoming session, and but three emanate from **insurance companies.** One asks for a change in charter and two for leave to transfer their business to other companies. Even our little Delaware can beat the British Empire all to pieces in quantity and variety of insurance legislation.

The country property owned by Mr. **John A. McCall** at Long Branch, N. J., together with all the furniture and furnishings, has been sold to Myron H. Oppenheim, the New York lawyer, for a client. It is said that Mr. McCall has sold the property to cancel the trust deed given by him to the New York Life insurance company. The price paid was between $200,000 and $250,000.

It is reported in Boston that following the severance of relations by F. G. Macomber, of that city, with the New York brokerage firm of **Johnson & Higgins,** the last named firm will open an independent office in Boston. That will be nothing new for Johnson & Higgins, who had such an office in the Hub before assuming relations with Mr. Macomber five years ago.

The **Western Sprinkled Risk Association,** the organization of non-Union companies for writing sprinklered business, has been in existence a year and a half and has had but four losses, with a total damage of $450. Of this only $100 was by fire, the remainder being by water. The applications of several additional companies for membership are pending.

The **American Cigar Company** and other owners of tobacco warehouses in Wisconsin are trying to insure their property in the tobacco district at three annual rates for five years. The Western Union rule requires four times the annual rate, and when the warehouses are used for prizing, rehandling or as stemmeries, they must be written under annual policies.

There was present at the annual meeting of the **Philadelphia Life Underwriters' Association,** held January 18, President Charles W. Scovell, of the National Association. These officers were elected: President, W. A. Higginbotham; vice presidents, James H. Glenn, T. E. Hammer, F. H. Garrigues; treasurer, W. H. Littlefield; secretary, Kendall Read.

The Insurance Commissioner of Arkansas will make a **careful examination** of the **Arkansas fire insurance companies** organized during the past year, with the view of ascertaining

if they borrowed funds and securities with which to make the affidavits as to assets required by law and returned them after affidavits had been made.

The Missouri Insurance Department has notified the **accident insurance companies** that they cannot place their policies through any agent who represents a register or identification company. The Department holds that the latter are not under its jurisdiction, and that it wants to be able to control the business.

These officers were elected at the recent annual meeting of the **Detroit Underwriters' Club**: President, W. A. Eldridge; vice president, Benjamin A. Wells; secretary, Alfred Bunclark; treasurer, Chas. Raymond; members executive committee, Leo K. Hennes, Harry B. Page and H. R. Vernor.

A letter received in this city from **Governor Pattison**, of Ohio, states that his illness was not typhoid fever, but a severe cold, and upon the advice of his physician he took to his bed as a precautionary measure only. In a few days he will be able to resume his public duties in person.

The **Western Millers' Mutual Fire** of Kansas City, which has been operating under the town mutual law, will incorporate under the regular mutual laws of Missouri, requiring larger assets and premium notes in force of at least $100,000.

The **West Virginia Fire Underwriters** has elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, U. O. McHals, Richmond, Va.; vice president, W. N. Sweeney, Baltimore, Md.; secretary and treasurer, J. E. Brown, Wheeling.

New officers have been elected by the **National Union Fire of Pittsburgh**, as follows: E. E. Cole, president; A. W. Mellon, vice president; H. C. Hughman, treasurer; B. D. Cole, assistant treasurer; J. F. Magee, assistant secretary.

The **Missouri State Life** has notified the Missouri Insurance Department that it has abandoned the writing of dated back, gold bond and other special contracts, and will confine itself hereafter to the regular forms of policies.

The law passed at the last session of the **Georgia** Legislature, requiring all **life assessment companies** to put up a deposit of $5,000, has forced eight to quit business. The majority of them operated among negroes.

The **German Fire of Wheeling**, W. Va., shows by its statement of January 1, 1906, assets amounting to $537,505.15 and a net surplus of $201,366.48. The company's capital stock is $200,000.

The **Louisiana Fire Prevention Bureau** is working on a new and revised schedule of the entire State of Louisiana outside of New Orleans as a modification of the 1903 schedule.

The **Rochester German** will increase its capital from $200,000 to $500,000. A special meeting of the stockholders to vote on the matter has been called for February 5.

Thirty-three mutual fire insurance companies of Michigan have failed within a few years, according to the record kept by the State Insurance Department.

The admirable **address of President John M. Holcombe** of the Phœnix Mutual Life, at Providence, R. I., on "What is Insurance?" has been printed in pamphlet form for distribution.

The **Eastern Shore Fire** insurance company has been organized at Onancock, Va., with a capital of $50,000, divided into shares of $50 each.

Copies of **Senator Dryden's Federal supervision bill** are being received by underwriters, with requests for their opinions regarding it.

The Metropolitan Surety and the Mechanics and Traders of New Orleans have applied for **admission to Indiana.**

The **Federal Union Surety Company** of Indianapolis is preparing to increase its capital to $500,000.

The **Jefferson Fire of Philadelphia** has been admitted to the State of New York.

The **Washington Life** of New York has withdrawn from South Dakota also.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

American Central: H. R. Tyler, special agent for New York State. Mr. Tyler for the past three years has been an inspector for the New England Insurance Exchange, Wakefield, Morley & Co., Hartford, Conn.

Delaware Fire of Dover, Del.: Lewis & Frear, agents for Brooklyn and the Borough of Queens.

Metropolitan Life: H. W. Pittman, Louisville, Ky., manager, being succeeded at Lexington by R. C. Ware, of Owensboro.

North British and Mercantile: Percy Ling, agent for Pennsylvania and West Virginia; Robert P. Barbour, eastern New York representative.

Northern of London: The Manley-McLennan agency, Duluth, Wis.

Union of Philadelphia: Gamwell & Ingraham, Providence, general agents.

Sun Fire of London: Arthur T. Hatch, of Boston, has been promoted from special agent to the position of general agent for New England.

Mr. Thomas J. Hill, of Boston, for the past eighteen years connected successively with the Endicott & Macomber and the F. G. Macomber agencies, and formerly second vice president of the Frank Gair Macomber Company, today ends his connection with the office last named, and on Monday will open an office for the transaction of general brokerage business, probably in the Oliver Building, Boston.

Mr. James F. Chase, who has resigned as manager at Boston for the United States Life, will on February 1 connect himself with the life department of the Travelers in that city as special agent. General Agent Woodman and Manager Baldwin are to be congratulated on the acquisition of so able and successful a life insurance man as Mr. Chase has shown himself to be.

Mr. William G. Cowles, secretary of the liability department of the Travelers, was presented with a handsome silver loving cup, suitably engraved, by the agency managers of the company assembled in convention at Hartford, Conn., January 19. The cup stands 8 inches high, and is gold lined.

Mr. Eugene D. Capron, assistant secretary of the Massachusetts Mutual Life of Springfield, and for forty years connected with that company, died at his home there January 17, aged sixty-five years. Death resulted from a complication of diseases. He was very highly respected by the company he had served so long and well.

Mr. Edson S. Lott, secretary and general manager of the United States Casualty Company, and his son Frederick B. Lott, assistant superintendent of the metropolitan department for personal accident and health insurance, have departed on a Southern tour, in which the company's principal agencies will be visited.

Mr. Joseph H. Woodward, of the actuarial department of the Travelers of Hartford, has been appointed actuary of the Connecticut Insurance Department by Insurance Commissioner Upson, succeeding Charles Hughes, who has accepted the position of managing director and actuary of the Crown Life of Toronto.

Mr. C. A. Ferguson, cashier of the agency of the United States Life at Boston, has been promoted to the managership of the company for eastern Massachusetts, following the resignation of James F. Chase.

Mr. Charles E. Case, for the past five years representative of the New York Underwriters' Agency in western New York, has been appointed special agent of the North British and Mercantile for New Jersey.

Mr. S. A. Beaumont, managing director of the County Fire Office and the Provident Life Office of London, who had been connected with the companies since 1878, committed suicide Monday.

Mr. William Edward Harden, junior member of the insurance firm of T. N. & W. E. Harden, general agents of the Northwestern Mutual Life

at Indianapolis, Ind., died of hemorrhage of the brain January 18, aged thirty-four years.

Mr. J. A. Tomlinson, formerly agency director of the New York Life in the Merchants Loan and Trust Building, has been made Cook County manager of the Ætna Life for the life department.

Mr. W. R. Bigelow has been elected vice president of the St. Paul Fire and Marine insurance company. He is the son of President Bigelow, and has been serving as assistant secretary.

Mr. Reginald Scott Sweetland, a veteran insurance underwriter of Denver, Col., died at Bellingham, Wash., where he had gone for his health, on January 14. He was fifty-five years of age.

Mr. Charles H. Moore, of Richmond, Ind., has resigned as special agent of the Phenix of Brooklyn, his duties being assumed by W. J. Wood, adjuster for the company.

Mr. E. Cheuvront, manager for the New York Life in the Black Hills district, has been appointed agency director for North Dakota, with headquarters at Fargo.

Mr. H. G. Buswell, Cook County manager of the Home of New York, has been appointed agent of the Delaware Fire of Dover, Del., which has entered Illinois.

Mr. Justin C. James, from the home office of the Germania Life, has been appointed superintendent of agencies in the West, with headquarters in Chicago.

Mr. W. H. Ducker has resigned as superintendent of agents of the Pacific Mutual Life in the central field, with headquarters in Chicago.

Senator Roehr, of the Wisconsin legislative committee investigating local insurance companies, was in New York this week.

Mr. W. H. Taylor has resigned as special agent of the Hamburg-Bremen Fire to join the Fireman's Fund of San Francisco.

Mr. E. J. Smith, of Medina, N. Y., an underwriter of twenty years' standing, died January 14, aged sixty-one years.

Mr. James M. Ferris, a Bath, N. Y., insurance agent, died there of pneumonia January 17, aged fifty-four years.

Mr. John W. Card, a Medina, N. Y., insurance agent, died January 15 at his home there, aged seventy-seven years.

Mr. Resin Calvert, a Pittsburgh, Pa., underwriter, died at his home there January 12, aged seventy years.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

DES MOINES, Ia., January 22.—Mr. Dunham has introduced Senate Bill No. 66, providing for a uniform fire insurance policy.

DES MOINES, Ia., January 23.—House Bill No. 80, by Mr. Langan, defines the phrases "wholly disabled" and "continually confined" in accident policies to mean that the assured shall be unable to perform the regular duties incident to his business.

Kentucky.

FRANKFORT, Ky., January 23.—Mr. McNutt has introduced Senate Bill No. 169, to prohibit insurance companies from owning more than 10 per cent. of the capital stock of any bank or trust company in this State.

Mr. Miller has introduced House Bill No. 292, requiring mutual life insurance companies to make an annual distribution of their surplus.

A bill has been introduced in the House providing for the publication by the Insurance Commissioner in one newspaper in each of the 119 counties, of the names of every insurance company, of all kinds, authorized to do business in the State. A bill of $25 against each company is authorized.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., January 18.—Senator Hilton put in a bill today providing that life insurance policies shall have a cash surrender value at any time, instead of upon their anniversaries, and that all policies of prudential and industrial insurance companies shall have a cash surrender value as well as those on which the weekly premiums are not over 50 cents each.

Mr. Mellen put in a petition in the House today of his own, for prohibition of insurance upon lives of children under thirteen years of age.

In view of the decision of the court in favor of the insurance company in the Woolford vs. Phœnix insurance company suit, Mr. Mellen introduced the following in the House:

Ordered, That the Insurance Commissioner be requested to investigate and report forthwith to the House of Representatives the advisability of a revision of the law pertaining to fire insurance, and more especially with regard to the form of fire insurance policy known as the Massachusetts standard policy.

BOSTON, January 19.—Among the House petitions today was one from John C. Harris that every accident insurance company doing business in this State must maintain a reserve on all policies in force equal to the unearned portion of the gross premiums charged for carrying the risk.

J. A. Tighe petitioned that insurance companies in which policyholders have the right to vote for trustees shall notify the policyholders by mail of the time and place of the meetings.

House Bill No. 246 has been introduced by Mr. Mellen, to provide for the appointment of a commission to consider the insurance systems of the Commonwealth.

BOSTON, Mass., January 22.—Mr. Buck petitioned today for legislation authorizing insurance against damage caused by the explosion of steam boilers or flywheels.

Mr. McGuire introduced a bill in the Senate providing that investments by life insurance companies shall be limited to such securities as savings banks may invest in, and that no officer of such insurance company shall be an officer in a company in which his company has its funds invested.

Mr. McDonald introduced a bill in the House providing that every mutual life insurance company may distribute its surplus once a year, or in two, three, four or five years, as the directors may from time to time determine.

Mr. McDonald introduced a bill in the House to forbid any agent of a life insurance or security company to offer for sale the stock or securities of any other company the receipts of the sale of which were to be used for the expenses of the first named company.

Mr. Greene has introduced House Bill No. 368, to better secure policyholders in employers' liability companies.

Mr. Mellen has introduced House Bill No. 307, to amend the standard form of policy of fire insurance, by striking out in the standard form of policy of fire insurance, as provided in the Revised Laws, the following words: "or if the insured now has or shall hereafter make any other insurance on the said property without the assent in writing or print of the company."

Senate Bill No. 91 introduced, to accompany the petition of Mr. George W. Buck, is for an act to authorize insurance companies incorporated for that purpose to insure against loss due to the explosion of flywheels.

House Bill No. 306, introduced by Mr. Graham, is for an act to provide that a policy of life insurance shall be nonforfeitable after the first premium is paid.

BOSTON, Mass., January 23.—The Insurance Committee gave a hearing this forenoon on the recommendations of Governor Guild that the insurance laws be codified by experts. Representative Mellen spoke against such codification, saying that experts were sure to be under the influence of corporations and that the interest of the public would suffer. Neither the Governor, nor the Insurance Commissioner, nor anyone representing them was present at the hearing, though both had been notified. It is believed that the Governor will get a considerable part of his requests.

Mr. Maguire introduced a bill in the Senate providing that future life insurance policies shall not become void for nonpayment of premium, after two full annual premiums shall have been paid.

Mr. McManus introduced a bill in the House, providing that certain classes of credit insurance companies may do an accident business.

Mr. Weeks has introduced a bill in the House to provide that

all paid editorials on insurance in newspapers shall be marked "advertisements."

BOSTON, Mass., January 24.—Mr. Callahan has introduced House Bill No. 462, "an act relative to the lapsing of life insurance policies on account of the time within which the premiums are to be paid."

Mr. Tighe has introduced House Bill No. 463, "an act relative to notification of meetings of policyholders of insurance companies."

Mr. Healy has introduced House Bill No. 464, "an act relative to the surrender of policies in industrial life insurance companies."

Mr. McManus has introduced House Bill No. 466, "an act to amend the standard form of fire insurance policies."

Mr. Magon has introduced House Bill No. 467, "an act relative to the transaction of business by fire insurance corporations." It is an anti-compact bill.

Mr. Harris has introduced House Bill No. 468, providing that every insurance company incorporated under the laws of this State or any other State of the United States, or under the laws of any foreign country, which in this State insures persons against bodily injury or death by accident, shall maintain a premium reserve on all such policies in force, whether issued in this State or elsewhere, equal to the unearned portion of the gross premiums charged for covering the risks.

New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., January 22.—Mr. Frelinghuysen has introduced Senate Bill No. 34, which provides that a tax paid to any firemen's relief association shall be considered the 2 per cent. required to be paid under the law, and that no tax shall be paid on reinsurance where paid on the original insurance.

TRENTON, N. J., January 23.—A hearing on the insurance investigation resolution will be held January 30 at noon, in the State House. The New Jersey bankers are urging its defeat because of the effect the inquiry would have on depositors.

Mr. Minturn introduced Senate Bill No. 48, requiring that all limitations in fire insurance policies shall be carefully explained to the insured at the time the policy is issued, and before it is accepted by him.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 23.—Mr. Hackett has introduced House Bill No. 223, which provides that all persons or corporations conducting an insurance business in this State, whether under a charter granted by this or any other State, shall be compelled to pay into the State Treasury all moneys over 5 per cent. of their earnings on the capital stock. These moneys to be distributed pro rata among State charitable institutions.

All persons or corporations operating a fire or life insurance business shall pay to any of the insured whose policy may have lapsed over half of the moneys paid by such policyholder. Any violation of this act is made a felony, subject to five years' imprisonment and $5.000 fine, as well as forfeiture of offending company's charter.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 23.—Mr. Smith has introduced House Bill No. 206, to prevent fire insurance companies entering into or maintaining pools, trusts, conspiracies or agreements to control rates of insurance. Any company violating the act shall forfeit its right to do business in this State, and shall also be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and liable upon conviction to a fine of not less than $500 nor more than $1,000.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 24.—Mr. La Fetra has introduced House Bill No. 253 to amend the tax law by striking out present exemption from taxation of personal property of fire, casualty or surety insurance companies equal in value to the unearned premiums required to be charged as a liability.

Mr. Tompkins has introduced House Bill No. 265 to elect the Insurance Superintendent by the people.

On Thursday Senator Armstrong introduced a bill appropriating $20,000 for 5,000 copies of the report of the proceedings of the Legislative Investigation Committee. He claimed that the State Printer was holding up the report printed by him in order to force the payment of higher prices by all who want the report.

Pennsylvania.

HARRISBURG, Pa., January 25.—The Senate today ordered an investigation of the Insurance Department to ascertain what has become of $33,000 in fees collected by the actuary of the department, Robert E. Forster, of Philadelphia, in the past six months. In a statement recently filed with the Legislature, Insurance Commissioner Martin said that none of the actuary's collections had been turned over to the present commissioner. Mr. Martin succeeded Israel W. Durham as Insurance Commissioner in July last. Mr. Forster is understood to be willing to explain the disposition of the money. The actuary collects fees directly from the insurance companies and accounts to no one.

South Carolina.

COLUMBIA, S. C., January 19.—House Bill No. 407, to amend Chapter 45 of the Code of 1902, referred to the Insurance Committee at the session of 1905, has been reported back and placed on the calendar. It amends Section 1,800 by changing the annual license fee for all foreign insurance companies from $100 to $250.

Section 1,808 is amended so as to require all foreign insurance companies "to pay quarterly to the State Treasurer an amount equal to 2½ per cent. on the gross premiums collected during the three months immediately preceding the payment of such license fee." (The present tax is one-half of 1 per cent.)

COLUMBIA, S. C., January 20.—Mr. Warren has introduced a bill in the Senate requiring all suits for the recovery of life or fire insurance to be brought in the county where the loss occurs.

Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., January 18.—Mr. Caton has introduced a voluminous bill in the House creating a Bureau of Insurance.

A bill was introduced in the House by Mr. Rew to provide the manner of determination, distribution and investment of the surplus of foreign life insurance companies or corporations doing business in this Commonwealth and to prescribe penalties for violation of the provisions of this act.

RICHMOND, Va., January 22.—The following bill has been offered in the Senate by Mr. Strode:

For any action against an insurance company or other insurer, founded on a policy of insurance issued after July 1, 1878, no failure to perform any condition of the policy, nor violation of any restrictive provision thereof, shall be a valid defense to such action, unless it appears that such condition or restrictive provision is printed in type as large as or larger than that commonly known as long primer type, or is written with pen and ink in or on the policy; nor shall any provision in any insurance policy limiting the time within which action thereon may be brought be valid.

RICHMOND, Va., January 24.—Mr. Wallace has introduced a valued policy bill.

In the bill of Mr. Caton creating a State Insurance Bureau all fire and life insurance companies, assessment, co-operative and fraternal associations and societies doing an insurance, and guaranty and surety companies are placed under its supervision and are subject to the examination of the Insurance Department. The department is to be supported by a tax of one-tenth of 1 per cent. of gross premium receipts in Virginia, which must be paid by the companies. The department will be headed by a commissioner of

insurance, who is to be elected by the General Assembly, and his salary is fixed at $3,500. The commissioner is to appoint his deputy and assistants. The term of office of the commissioner is four years, the first term beginning July 1, 1906, ending January 31, 1910.

Miscellany.

Annual Meeting of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company.

The annual meeting of the members of the Mutual Reserve Life was held at the company's offices on Wednesday, and was lively. A number of people came to the meeting claiming to be policyholders, and some after undergoing a careful scrutiny were admitted. Others were rejected and made a large row about it in the lower hall of the building. Some said that they would take their grievances to the district attorney.

At the meeting the officers voted 14,044 proxies held by them, and with 34 other votes cast by themselves and employees as policyholders controlled the meeting. Three directors were elected on the regular ticket—James W. Bowden, W. T. B. Milliken and Charles W. Camp (secretary). The opposition vote of 20 came from the admitted policyholders. President Burnham was present, but Vice President Eldridge presided. In answer to questions by the opposition policyholders he said that the legal expenses for 1905 were $85,000, that the president got $700 a week, and that he as vice president got $600 a week. The salary list for 1905 was $285,000.

Th company has sent us its own version of the proceedings, which is as follows:

The Mutual Reserve Life is a membership corporation, the actual members of which are alone entitled to vote.

A total of nine persons only, who applied for admission to the annual meeting, were denied. None of these were members. Five claimed to hold proxies, which, however, had not been registered, nor were any of these five, as required by the charter, members. Of the other four, one admitted his policy to have lapsed; one was an assignee; one represented her husband's policy and one represented his wife's.

The only notice of the annual meeting required by the bylaws adopted by the members is publication in a certain number of newspapers, but, in addition to this, the company has always mailed a personal notice to every member, and is the only company, according to the testimony before the Armstrong Investigating Committee, which pursues this course. These personal notices were mailed the present year, as in all preceding years. The bylaw requirement that the proxy shall be registered a certain number of days prior to the meeting has been continuous since February, 1882. During 1882 the period was thirty days, which was reduced in 1883 to ten days, at which it has remained unchanged. This requirement is also in the charter of the company, as is the provision that the holder of the proxy must be a member of the company. The care taken by the company to determine the qualification of those applying to attend the meeting was due largely to the close questioning to which Mr. Hughes subjected the officers of the various mutual companies before the investigating committee, as to whether any method was adopted to ascertain that those presenting themselves to the annual meeting were in fact qualified as voters. The company simply ascertained this fact prior to admitting applicants to the room where the meeting was held, holding it necessary that such room should be reserved for the use of the members, especially as it was anticipated that the attendance would reach into the hundreds. The rule of exclusion was rigidly applied to every employee or officer of the company, whatever his rank, who was not qualified as a voter. The meeting was not opened until every person desiring to attend and who was entitled so to do had been admitted to the room. The discussion during the two hours the meeting was in session was at times animated, but in no way acrimonious. Every question asked by policyholders was fully and frankly answered. The annual statement of the company for the year 1905 was read and explained in detail, and so satisfactorily that, on motion of one of those who had been most active on behalf of the opposition, the report was by a unanimous vote adopted and approved. The "small poorly lighted room" on the "top floor" of the building, to which it is said that the members were conducted, was a room on the fourth floor, with three large windows on Broadway, and five on Duane street, the dimensions of which room were 17x38 feet. CHARLES W. CAMP, Secretary.

Answer of the Attorney General of New York to the Demurrers in the Equitable Life Suit.

The Attorney General of New York has filed with the Supreme Court a brief answering the demurrers raised by various defendants in the suit against the old board of directors of the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

The Attorney General devotes much attention to the responsibilities of directors or trustees who may be personally innocent of wrongdoing, but who in their service have not discovered specific wrongdoing by others in the board or among the officers. He says in connection with this:

From the standpoint of public policy this action is important not merely because it seeks to compel certain directors named to account in a court of equity, nor merely because it seeks to redress in the name of the people certain alleged affirmative wrongs. It is important because it seeks to establish the principle that men who become directors of great quasi-public corporations, and to whom is intrusted the management of vast sums of money belonging to other people, must faithfully discharge the duties which they have undertaken; they must be diligent; they cannot shift responsibility upon their associates or subordinates, relying upon the good faith, integrity and judgment of those associates and subordinates, without on their own part at least exercising that supervision, care and diligence which a prudent man exercises in the conduct of his own affairs. We dissent from the view expressed by one of our learned opponents, that certain of these defendants had no duty beyond attending the quarterly meetings and listening to the reports of the active officers of the defendant corporation. If they reposed confidence where it did not belong, it is they who should suffer and not the corporation and its policyholders, whose interests it was their duty to safeguard and protect.

The trustee, the director, the manager or other officer of a corporation having a general superintendence of its concerns is charged with affirmative duties. If he sees wrongdoing he cannot remain silent; if the knowledge of acts detrimental to the corporation, whether of commission or omission, comes to him, he must act to prevent the wrong if prevention is timely, or to remedy the wrong if the wrong has been consummated. His duty does not arise by virtue of any financial interest, nor has it any relation whatever to his holdings in the corporation; indeed as has been pointed out, he may have no financial interest in the corporation.

Attorney General Mayer also says something as to the obligation or right of a director or trustee to call to account delinquent trustees. This, he admits, is more or less a new proposition in law, and he considers at some length the denial made by counsel for various defendants of his assertion in his complaint that the directors of the Equitable as a whole were responsible by reason of their failure to institute suits for the restitution of funds that had been wasted. He adds:

We come to this: Either a faithful director of a corporation has an action in equity to compel delinquent directors to account, irrespective of the character of the acts of the delinquent directors as to malfeasance or non-feasance, or the faithful director has no cause of action at all, and the corporation must lie at the mercy of its faithless directors and managers (unless called to the attention of the State), because, forsooth, their delinquent acts consisted in failure to do their duty as distinguished from the

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commission of an active wrong. We submit that the proposition is preposterous.

This action was not begun idly, but it was brought in the hope that the courts would announce a standard of conduct which might prove of permanent value to the citizens of this State, so that hereafter there shall be no question that the people of the State possess the power and authority to compel a director who does not direct to account to a court of equity for loss and damage which have resulted to the corporation by reason of his failure to do his duty.

Inquiring Mind of the Colorado Insurance Department.

The Insurance Department of Colorado has addressed the following series of questions to "all insurance companies doing business in Colorado":

DENVER, January 18, 1906.

DEAR SIR—The following inquiries are submitted with the request that the answers be sworn to and returned, if possible, before March 1, 1906; same, when received, to be attached to and filed with your annual statement to this department:

1. What were the salaries of your officials, directors and trustees for 1905? Show annual salary of each.
2. Have any of these salaries been recently increased or reduced; and if so, when and to what extent?
3. Has any officer, director or trustee of your company been paid, since January 1, 1905, any money or other valuable compensation for any service rendered the company, over and above the salaries stated in reply to question No. 1? If so, please state amounts so paid each officer, director or trustee.
4. Has any officer, director or trustee of your company participated in commissions, interest or other profits of any syndicate or pool formed for the purpose of buying or selling property or securities for your company since January 1, 1905? If so, please give details.
5. Has any officer, director or trustee of your company participated, since January 1, 1905, directly or indirectly, through commissions, interest or otherwise, in the profits of any general or local agency of your company? If so, please give list of such instances, explaining each.
6. Have any funds of the company been loaned to any officer, director, trustee or employee of the company since January 1, 1905, aside from loans on personal policies? If so, please give amounts and interest rate on each loan.
7. Are there any such loans, made prior to January 1, 1905, still outstanding? If so, please give details.
8. Does your company control, by stock ownership or otherwise, any other insurance company, any bank, or trust, loan or investment company or agency? If so, please give name, nature of business transacted by each, and the amount your company has invested in each.
9. Have any of the expenditures shown in your annual report for 1905 as "legal expenses" been used for political purposes, or to influence national or State legislation? If so, how much?
10. Have company funds been used, directly or indirectly, to promote the enactment of State or national legislation favorable to the interests of the policyholders, or to oppose legislation regarded as detrimental to the interests of policyholders?
11. If the answer to No. 10 is "yes," please name amount so expended during the past six years, and say whether or not it is the intention of your company to continue this policy hereafter.
12. Has your company contributed money directly or indirectly to the political campaign funds or expenses of any political party?
13. If the answer to No. 12 is "yes," please name amount so contributed during the past six years, and say if it is the intention of your company to continue this practice.
14. On what date was your company last examined by a State Insurance Department, and by what State was the examination made? Yours truly,

E. E. RITTENHOUSE, Deputy Superintendent of Insurance.

Approved:

ALFRED E. BENT, Auditor and ex-Officio Superintendent of Insurance.

At the January meeting of the executive committee of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, held on Thursday, the subject of these demands from the Colorado Insurance Department came up and it was referred to the committee on laws for consideration and a report.

Sixtieth Annual Statement of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company.

To the Members of the Company:

In accordance with our custom of many years, we ask your careful consideration of matters of interest in the the company's organization, control, management and condition, and the chief results in the conduct of the business in 1905.

THE LATE PRESIDENT.

Colonel Jacob Lyman Greene, the company's fourth president, died at his home in Hartford, Conn., March 29, 1905. To many of you he was personally known; to all of you he represented what was right, sound, safe and conservative in the management of your interests; and to him you gave the highest reward for the highest service—your confidence and support and loyalty, in his official relations of thirty-five years.

And rightly so, since in each year he rendered to you a complete account of the stewardship of your affairs, and pointed the way to safety and honor in this serious business of life insurance administration. And no man engaged in it has done more, by voice and pen, to make things clear to the insurer, to expose fallacies, to condemn hazardous experiments and wrong methods, and to mark their inevitable results (written, as they now are, in the history of current investigations), and to clothe in a bright light this sure and sacred beneficence.

A SETTLED POLICY.

In the company's whole history, the directors and officers whom you have chosen to serve that purpose, and that purpose only, have established and observed the highest standards in the business—safe assumptions as to mortality and interest rates, careful selection of risks, security in investments, conservatism in contracts, economy in expenditures, a direct accountability to members, and the return of annual dividends. This definite policy and its scrupulous observance have produced two incomparable results:

(a) The company has returned to its members and their beneficiaries, in death claims, endowments, annuities, surrendered policies and dividends, $2,497,023.49 more than it has received from them in premiums—a result which no other American life insurance company of any magnitude has accomplished.

(b) And it has also furnished, and made safe at all times, sound, straight life insurance, on the whole at less cost than any other company.

The persistence of our business, the nominal amount of lapsing policies, mark the appreciation of members, and their satisfaction with their sure protection, and at the lowest cost—an actual cost, which cannot be safely lessened by any voluntary or compulsory reduction of premiums.

There will be no departure from such methods of administration.

CORPORATE MUTUALITY.

This company is a purely mutual one; it has no stock and no stockholders, with the contingencies that wait on personal ownership, with the changes of management that are not infrequent either for personal profit or corporate control, and with the diversion of mutual earnings, and the conversion of mutual assets into stock dividends and stock capitalizations. It belongs to its members; they own its assets and its surplus; it is their collective property, set aside, and vested in them in their corporate name, for one purpose—the payment of each other's losses and obligations as they mature within the conditions of the contracts.

The members have direct, absolute control of their funds in trust for their needs, through the direct election of their representatives from year to year, and each member, as defined in the charter, has the suffrage right of every other member, and has only to exercise it as both his duty and his privilege.

INSURANCE MUTUALITY.

This company makes no profits save for its members; it charges each one an adequate premium, one that is certainly safe, and deducts from it the total cost of his individual insurance for a year, and then returns to him, in unearned or unused premiums called dividends, the excess he had paid over such actual cost, with no discrimination in favor of anyone, and no forfeiture for the benefit of other members.

The company issues no speculative contracts to put at hazard or wholly sacrifice the protection of any member and his family by the unconscionable forfeiture of his surplus or a portion of the reserve, for the benefit of some other member who may chance to live through a so called "distribution period," with its postponement of all present accountability.

Through careful selection of risks, proper investment of the re-

serves, and economy in expenses, so much is saved from each premium as is possible, and each one pays his own actual cost, and each gets back his contribution to the surplus created by the members as a whole.

MEMBERSHIP.

Membership in the company is defined by Section 5 of the charter. It is this:

"That all and every person or persons who shall at any time hereafter become insured in or with said company, shall be deemed and taken as members of said corporation, for and during the time specified in his or their respective policies, and no longer, and shall at all times be concluded and bound by the provisions of this act."

To secure to each member the right to vote by proxy, instead of in person, at the company's meetings, the following bylaw was passed by the members at their annual meeting in 1847, which is still in force, to wit:

"Any member of this corporation may delegate his right of voting, by proxy, which shall be good for one annual meeting only; which proxy shall be filed with the secretary."

The right to vote is not governed by the number or amount of any member's policies, or any other arbitrary limit. Every member who holds a participating policy in any amount—that is, one entitled to receive surplus—is a duly qualified voter at all elections.

METHOD OF VOTING—ITS RIGHTFUL USE.

It is not possible for the members of the company, owing to their great numbers, to assemble at any meeting. They can, therefore, only register their choice of directors, and their approval or disapproval of matters under consideration at such meetings, through some person or persons whom they may duly appoint for that purpose. This can be accomplished only by the giving of their proxies to such persons. They may be given to any person intrusted with that responsible duty. They usually run to some of the directors or officers in whom the members have full confidence, and who have become worthy of it by their administration and service.

Proxies are revocable at the will of the member; and the power to change any management, if necessity arises, is therefore immediate and effectual. Clearly, this corporate right and privilege, upon which the safety of the corporation depends, should not be delegated to strangers, to exploiters, to promoters, to wreckers, to speculative financiers, who have nothing but their own selfish or nefarious ends to serve.

Your representatives here deem it their imperative duty to have available for instant use, if an emergency arises, the necessary and proper means to protect your interests, and they will not hesitate to call for them as occasion offers.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the company is held at its home office in Hartford, Conn., on the fourth Wednesday of February in each year; and notice of this meeting is given, by publication of the call therefor, for two weeks preceding such meeting, in two of the newspapers in Hartford, as required by the charter.

Manifestly this notice cannot reach the members as a body, and we invite particular attention to our present advices as to the date and place of the annual meeting, for future reference and information.

THE COST OF INSURANCE.

The current newspaper discussion as to a reduction of life insurance premiums, and consequent cheaper insurance, takes no account of the controlling factors in the cost of insurance. That cost is not determined by the premium charged; it is determined by four integral factors: (a) death losses, (b) the reserve, (c) the expenses of management, (d) adverse contingencies; and the only controllable factor is that of expenses. Any variation in these items affects the cost, and any and all of these contingencies are certain or possible, in any year or given series of years.

A contract of insurance may not mature and become payable within its conditions for seventy-five years or more. Manifestly, the premium must be adequate in the beginning, more than adequate, to cover hazards sure to arise. The premiums can never be increased; they remain a fixed quantity; there can be no reduction of them which would not put in jeopardy the margin of absolute safety.

Any reduction would not change the actual cost of the insurance, would not make it cheaper; since, in a company like the Connecticut Mutual, the entire excess of the premiums over the cost of the insurance, in each year, is returned to the members as dividends. And there is therefore no occasion, no necessity, for a reduction in the standard premiums charged for life insurance. They are simply adequate, so far as human foresight can determine, to make doubly sure the fulfillment of every obligation. The member receives back his overpayment; that is, unused premium; and this overpayment, or excess, which is so returned from year to year, is absolutely indispensable to the protection of the contracts under all possible contingencies—a protection which is furnished at its actual cost.

The solvency of the companies to which men have committed their dearest interests, is not to be put in peril by any managerial ambitions, or in obedience to an ignorant clamor for cheaper insurance, so cheap as to be worthless, or to legislative blunders or inequities.

THE NEW YORK INVESTIGATION.

The company made full answers to all the inquiries of the joint committee of the Legislature of the State of New York, and a leaflet, covering the entire correspondence, will be sent to members, on application at the home office, or at the agencies. The chief points of interest in it and in the official testimony are these:

No delegation of their powers or duties by the directors to committees.

No participation, personal or official, in any syndicate operations.

No bank deposits or balances, save for necessary current use.

No general or continuous retainers to counsel.

No contributions to political campaign funds or campaign committees.

No payments in connection with legislation, save to local counsel for arguments before legislative committees on bills affecting our members' interests, chiefly as to taxation.

No deferred dividend policies, or any other form of speculative contracts, ever issued by this company.

No extravagance in salaries, commissions, or any other expenses.

FROM THE YEAR'S EXPERIENCE.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS.

The transactions show these notable results—an increase in new business written, in the total amount of insurance in force, in premium income, in assets, in surplus, in interest and rents, in market values; earnings to maintain the same scale of dividends in 1906, and satisfactory mortality savings.

A UNIQUE RECORD.

Results.	Resources.
Received from members, in premiums, since organization	$238,241,229.24
Returned to them, their families, their estates, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Excess of amount returned	$2,497,023.49
The company holds in trust sound assets of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
To meet actual and contingent liabilities of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

And all this has been accomplished at a total expense ratio of but 9.42 per cent. of the total receipts.

NEW BUSINESS.

The company increased its total amount of insurance in force on the "paid for" basis, $2,995,268. This result was attained without the expenditure of an extra dollar in commissions, bonuses or allowances, and is due to the loyal and zealous service of the company's representatives in the field, against heavy odds in competition, and in the face of the disclosures as to the methods of management of certain other companies under investigation, and the general discussion of life insurance affairs, from which good results to the system as a whole, and its administration, will follow.

A change in the commissions to agents has recently been authorized by the directors, which will afford to them an equalized and additional compensation, and will, we believe, increase the new business to keep pace with the company's record, prestige and merits. This change will not, so far as we can now foresee, interfere with our present scale of dividends to policyholders. Strength, not size; safety, not hazards; economy, not waste—are the simple but vital principles that will govern in enlarging our membership, as in all other matters of management.

INVESTMENTS.

We ask your careful consideration of the attached financial exhibit of assets and liabilities, surplus, receipts and expenditures,

and the itemized schedule of securities. All the investments are made under the direct supervision and authority of the board of directors, acting as a committee of the whole at their weekly meetings.

REAL ESTATE MORTGAGES.

The company has made loans on city and farm properties, since its organization, chiefly in the cities of New York, Toledo, Detroit, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth, and on selected farms in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas, in the sum of $191,700,602.16. There has been repaid to the company from this vast sum, at maturity of the obligations and by foreclosure, $167,938,911.68.

It will suffice to say of the character and quality of the mortgage loans held by the company, on city and farm properties, on the last day of December, 1905, amounting to $23,761,690.48, that the entire amount of delinquent, unpaid interest, on that day, was $30,656.34, or about thirteen-hundredths of 1 per cent. of the sum so invested.

REAL ESTATE.

The facts about the real estate of the company, as an asset sometimes called into question by the officers and agents of rival companies, in the stress of competition, or by parties seeking to purchase at their own figures, are briefly these:

The total amount of real estate taken under foreclosure	$24,970,786.42
From these holdings the company has sold properties for	17,909,468.54
Which stood on its books at a cost of	16,548,245.52
Or a profit over cost of	1,361,223.02
A profit of 8.23 per cent.	
In the year 1905 it sold properties which stood at a cost of	700,161.39
For	774,630.89
A profit of	74,469.50
A profit of 10.6 per cent.	

The expenses upon it are decreasing, and the net revenue is increasing, in each year. We have, therefore, sound reasons for the belief that the balance of these properties will, under business conditions as they come and go, realize its cost, and more. We shall dispose of it to the best advantage of the interests we represent.

BONDS.

The company has purchased during its history in the open market, bonds of the United States, of various States, of municipalities, of railway and other corporations, in a total sum costing $53,254,720.59. It has made a profit on these investments, through sales and maturities, of $871,303.01. Its present holdings are $25,571,124.34, and the character and quality of these obligations are certified in the fact that none of them is in default in principal or interest, and the market value of bonds and stocks in excess of their cost is $1,092,721.91.

STOCKS.

The investment in stocks has always been inconsiderable in amount; the total present holding in bank, trust company, railway and other corporations being $829,076.25, or 1.3 per cent. of the company's assets.

CO-OPERATION.

With this history, this record, these results, wrought out on the hard and fast lines of safety, conservatism and economy, by men chosen by you to represent you, in a company under your own control, with its ample resources to meet its obligations to the last dollar, we invite your cordial co-operation in the protection and advancement of your interests as policyholders.

This co-operation can be made practical and effective in many ways: e. g., by counsel to others to become members of the company, with its sure and economical protection; by assisting its representatives in various fields, in securing new business, and especially, at this opportune time, by taking a direct, personal interest, through your legislators, in securing sound and safe legislation, and defeating harmful and hasty legislation, particularly in the matter of taxation of your assets, reserve funds and premiums —a direct tax on losses bound to occur, on thrift and sacrifices, every dollar of which adds to the cost of your insurance, through increased expenses and lessened dividends; taxation which yields immense revenues to the States, vastly in excess of the cost of maintaining insurance departments, and all other legitimate expenses of protection or regulation of the business, and which are used for general State expenditures.

In behalf of the directors,

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President.

HARTFORD, Conn., January 20, 1906.

The Connecticut Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Hartford

PURELY MUTUAL ANNUAL DIVIDENDS

Condition Jan. 1, 1906

ASSETS.

Loans upon Real Estate, First Lien	$23,761,690.48
Bonds, at Cost	25,571,124.34
Stocks, at Cost	829,076.25
Loans upon Stocks and Bonds	30,000.00
Loans upon Policies of this Company	861,615.00
Premium Notes on Policies in Force	461,927.76
Home Office Property	1,916,236.00
Other Real Estate	8,422,540.90
Cash in Banks	1,767,466.06
State of New York, Comptroller's Certificates	24,442.69
Interest Due and Accrued	890,120.05
Rents Due and Accrued	22,263.82
Market Value of Stocks and Bonds Over Cost	1,092,721.91
Net Uncollected and Deferred Premiums	387,703.36
Total Assets	$66,038,928.62

LIABILITIES.

Amount Required to Reinsure All Outstanding Policies, net, Company's Standard, higher than that required by any State	$58,841,368.00
Liability on Account of Lapsed Policies not Surrendered	156,911.00
Policy Claims in Process of Adjustment	348,920.26
Premiums Paid in Advance	37,772.59
Dividends Credited and Left with the Company at Interest	1,456,309.56
Real Estate Contingent Depreciation Account	300,000.00
Surplus to Policyholders	4,897,647.21
Total Liabilities	$66,038,928.62

1905.

THE YEAR'S BUSINESS SHOWS:

An Increase in Cash Income,

An Increase in Assets,

An Increase in Surplus to Policyholders,

An Increase in Insurance Written,

An Increase in Insurance in Force.

Number of Policies in Force on Paid for Basis, 71,307; Insuring, $169,412,783.

SINCE ORGANIZATION.

Received from Policyholders	$238,241,229.24
Paid to Policyholders	240,738,252.73
Excess Returned Over Amount Received	2,497,023.49

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. HENRY S. ROBINSON, Vice-President.

HERBERT H. WHITE, Secretary, DANIEL H. WELLS, Actuary.

1885 TWENTIETH ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE 1906

Granite State Fire Insurance Company

PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

December 31, 1905

ASSETS.

Bonds and Stocks	$640,085.00
Real Estate Owned by the Company	28,500.00
First Mortgages on Real Estate	7,800.00
Loans on Collateral	5,000.00
Cash in Bank and Office	45,903.26
Interest Accrued	3,451.51
Agents' Balances, Net	48,459.11
Due from Other Companies	109.15
Total	$779,308.03

LIABILITIES.

Unpaid Losses		$34,428.13
Reserve for Reinsurance		338,243.95
All Other Liabilities		6,239.58
Total Liabilities		$378,911.66
Capital Stock Paid Up	$200,000.00	
Net Surplus Over All Liabilities	200,396.37	
Surplus as Regards Policyholders		$400,396.37
Total		$779,308.03

CALVIN PAGE, Pres. | JOHN W. EMERY, Asst. Sec.
J. ALBERT WALKER, Vice-Pres. | ALFRED F. HOWARD, Sec.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE—INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

CONCORD, N. H., January 12, 1906.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that on the twelfth day of January, 1906, I completed a personal examination of the financial standing and condition on the thirty-first day of December, 1905, of the Granite State Fire Insurance Company, of the city of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, having appraised their securities and assets and computed their liabilities, as set forth in the records of the office of the company and in the accounts of its Treasurer. A summary of the result is as follows:

Total Amount of Assets	$779,308.03
Total Amount of Liabilities, except Capital	378,911.66
Capital Stock Paid up in Cash	200,000.00
Surplus above Capital Stock and All Liabilities	200,396.37

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Insurance Department, this twelfth day of January, A. D. 1906.

[Seal] GEO. H. ADAMS, Insurance Commissioner.

CONSERVATIVE
PROGRESSIVE
FAITHFUL

¶ Some of the cardinal aims of the *Union Mutual* management are—to be conservative in the choice of investments—to be progressive in the prosecution of the business—to be faithful to the interests of policyholders.

Agents of like inclination cordially welcomed.

Union Mutual Life Ins. Co.

Portland, Maine

FRED E. RICHARDS, *Pres.* ARTHUR L. BATES, *Vice-Pres.*

For Territory address either

EDSON D. SCOFIELD, Superintendent, 180 Broadway, N. Y. City.
THORNTON CHASE. Superintendent, 84 Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

Commercial Union Assurance Co.

LIMITED,

OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410.42	$11,290,773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

National Life Insurance Co.

OF VERMONT.

Established in 1850. Operating in 42 States.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, President. H. M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President. A. B. BISBEE, Medical Director.
JAMES B. ESTEE, 2d Vice-President. C. E. MOULTON, Actuary.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary. F. A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1905, and gained during the past decade:

ASSETS	$31,398,453.67.	Gain, 184 Per Cent.
SURPLUS	3,458,075.90.	Gain, 142 Per Cent.
INSURANCE	134,761,554.00.	Gain, 107 Per Cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.
A. H. GESLLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

Bankers Life Insurance Company
of the City of New York.
Foster M. Voorhees, President.
Issues the most liberal policies,
Offers the best renewal contracts to Agents of
Standing and Responsibility.
For particulars apply
Home Office, 31 Nassau St., N. Y. City.

You Must Progress if You Would Succeed.

P. M. STARNES, President

A PROGRESSIVE COMPANY

ESTABLISHED 1868

Full Paid Capital
One Million Dollars

In five years has gained in

Annual Premium Income, $1,331,799
Assets 2,911,595
Insurance in force . . 27,949,110

Progressive Management
Modern Policies

Home Office
NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencies
WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

WHAT is the use of saying
"The best company,"
or "The strongest company,"
or "The largest company"?
They all say these things.

WE SIMPLY SAY . . .

THE PENN MUTUAL LIFE Insurance Company

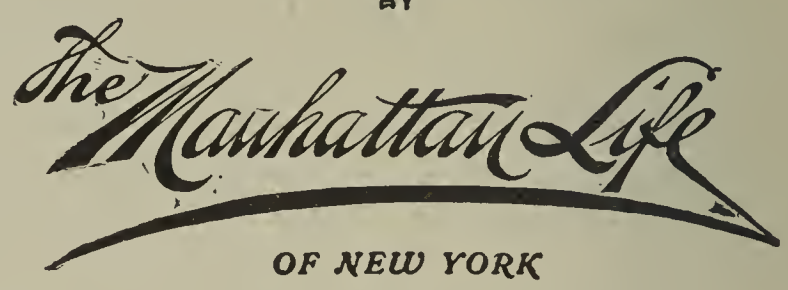
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Organized 1847.

THAT TELLS THE WHOLE STORY.

AGENTS WANTED

BY



OF NEW YORK

Exclusive Territory
Liberal Contracts

STRENGTH
SECURITY
SOLIDITY

INCORPORATED 1851.

The Berkshire Life Insurance Company,

OF PITTSFIELD, Mass.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. JAMES M. BARKER, Vice-Pres.
J. M. LEE, Actuary. THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec.
ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Secy
Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

Liverpool & London & Globe Ins. Co.,

ESTABLISHED, 1836. ENTERED THE UNITED STATES, 1848.

NEW YORK OFFICE:
WILLIAM & PINE STREETS.

NEW ENGLAND, NEW YORK, PENNSYLVANIA, OHIO, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, TENNESSEE, ARKANSAS, MARYLAND, DELAWARE, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

H. W. EATON, Resident Manager.
GEO. W. HOYT, Deputy Manager.
JOHN J. MARTIN, Agency Superintendent.

CHICAGO OFFICE:
203—205 LA SALLE STREET

ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN, IOWA, WISCONSIN, MINNESOTA, MISSOURI, COLORADO, DAKOTA, KANSAS, NEBRASKA, MONTANA, UTAH, WYOMING AND NEW MEXICO, INDIAN AND OKLAHOMA TERRITORIES.

W. S. WARREN, Resident Secretary.
GEO. H. MOORE, J. V. THOMAS, } Assistant Secretaries.

NEW ORLEANS OFFICE:
Corner CARONDELET AND GRAVIER STREETS.

LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, ALABAMA, GEORGIA, FLORIDA, TEXAS.

CLARENCE F. LOW, Resident Secretary.
J. G. PEPPER, Assistant Secretary.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:
422 CALIFORNIA STREET.

CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, OREGON, WASHINGTON, IDAHO, ARIZONA

CHARLES D. HAVEN, Resident Manager.
C. MASON KINNE, Assistant Secretary.

Northern Assurance Company,

OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN DEPARTMENTS,

38 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

GEORGE W. BABB, JR., Manager. T. A. RALSTON, Sub-Manager.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41 (Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.
Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

Western Assurance Company

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, CANADA.
INCORPORATED 1851.

Hon. GEO. A. COX, President.
J. J. KENNY, V. P. and Managing Director.

UNITED STATES STATEMENT, JANUARY, 1905.

Assets	$2,360,496.46
Surplus in United States	731,149.48

Massachusetts Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED 1851

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

ASSETS January 1, 1905,	$37,071,297.57
LIABILITIES,	33,770,674.54
SURPLUS,	3,300,623.03

Definite Paid-up and Cash Surrender Values written in every Policy.

JOHN A. HALL, Pres. HENRY M. PHILLIPS, Vice-Pres.
WM. W. MCCLENCH, Sec'd Vice-Pres. WM. H. SARGEANT, Sec.

New York Office: 610 Empire Building, 71 Broadway.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1905

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance.
The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy.
Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

For a DEFINITE PROMISE to PAY, well defined, no experiment and taking no chances that technical legal definitions of what constitutes an accident will be used to defeat claims, BUY YOUR INSURANCE in and SELL the policies of

"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.

For particulars address **The Central Accident Ins. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

1906 61st ANNUAL STATEMENT OF 1906

The Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, Newark, New Jersey

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, President.

ASSETS, JANUARY 1, 1906.

Cash on hand and in Banks	$1,090,266.29
Loans on Collateral	3,104,350.00
United States and Other Bonds, par	26,414,551.33
First Bonds and Mortgages on Real Estate	47,103,927.09
Real Estate	3,079,706.90
Loans on Policies in Force	14,057,446.84
Agents' Balances and Cash Obligations	72,542.48
	$94,922,790.93
Interest Due and Accrued	1,661,764.50
Net Deferred and Unreported Premiums on Policies in Force.	1,209,172.15
Total	$97,793,727.58

LIABILITIES.

Reserve Fund, According to the Actuaries' and American Tables of Mortality, with 4 and 3 per cent. Interest	$89,723,287.00
Policy Claims in Process of Adjustment	272,240.36
Deferred Endowment Claims	236,543.07
Deferred Death Claims	185,568.86
Present Value of $432,302.50 hereafter payable on Matured Instalment Bonds	329,155.59
Allowance for Unpresented and Contingent Claims	325,000.00
Dividends Due and Unpaid	326,217.23
Premiums Paid in Advance	76,319.66
	$91,474,331.77
Surplus	6,319,395.81

Market Value of Bonds over par	$1,333,412.37
Assets on Market Value Basis	99,127,139.95
Surplus on Market Value Basis	7,652,808.18
Policies Issued and Revived in 1905	29,138
Insuring	$61,363,148.00
Policies in Force January 1, 1906	168,643
Insuring	$392,548,092.00

RECEIPTS IN 1905.

Premiums	$14,834,018.21
Interest	4,236,694.30
Rents	160,604.88
Profit and Loss	18,948.03
Total Receipts	$19,250,265.42
Balance January 1, 1905	89,101,591.37
	$108,351,856.79

EXPENDITURES IN 1905.

Death Claims	$5,128,922.15
Endowments	1,409,981.97
Annuities	140,745.95
Surrendered Policies	1,621,585.93
Dividends or Return Premiums	1,998,787.01
Total Paid Policyholders	$10,300,023.01
Taxes on Real Estate	$49,217.31
Other Taxes, Fees and Licenses	435,937.72
Real Estate Expenses	52,275.52
Investment Expenses	88,174.44
Medical Expenses	172,807.32
Legal Expenses	44,140.90
Commissions and Agency Expenses	1,611,319.81
Salaries and Other Office Expenses	395,370.58
Advertising, Printing and Postage	112,784.53
Total Expenses and Taxes	$2,962,028.13
Premiums on Bonds Purchased	$102,014.72
Charged off from Foreclosed Real Estate, to Cover Possible Depreciation	65,000.00
Total Expenditures	$13,429,065.86
Balance January 1, 1906	94,922,790.93
	$108,351,856.79

INCREASE IN 1905 OVER 1904.

In Premium Receipts	$1,131,187.47	In Surplus, Par Values	$396,877.71
In Total Receipts	1,402,498.88	In Surplus, Market Values	333,245.21
In Amount Paid Policyholders	445,241.74	In Insurance Issued and Revived	6,561,445.00
In Assets, Par Values	5,952,982.18	In Outstanding Insurance	28,747,008.00
In Assets, Market Values	5,889,349.68		

Total Receipts from Policyholders in 1905	$14,834,018.21
Total Paid to and Invested for Policyholders in 1905	16,253,005.19
Excess of Income from Investments over Expenses and Taxes in 1905	1,454,219.08

DIRECTORS.

Amzi Dodd, Edward H. Wright, Marcus L. Ward, Fred'k M. Shepard, Fred'k Frelinghuysen, Albert B. Carlton, Edward L. Dobbins, J. William Clark, John O. H. Pitney, John R. Hardin, Thomas W. Cauldwell, Peter Campbell.

1849 "OLD AND TRIED" 1906

Glens Falls Insurance Co.

Glen Falls, New York.

Abstract from Its 56th Annual Statement

January 1, 1906.

TOTAL CASH ASSETS		$4,515,081.38

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock	$200,000.00	
Unearned Premium Fund, N. Y. Standard	1,508,302.40	
Unpaid Losses, December 31, 1905	57,713.99	
Reserve for Dividends	120,000.00	
All other Liabilities, Actual and Contingent	35,000.00—	1,921,016.39
NET SURPLUS OVER ALL LIABILITIES		$2,594,064.99

GENERAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR.

Net Premiums exceed Losses Paid, Taxes and Expenses		$217,256.79
Decrease in Unpaid Losses		19,815.61
Earnings of Assets		196,287.20
AGGREGATE GAIN		$433,359.60
Increase in Unearned Premiums	$106,418.83	
Dividends Paid During 1905	70,000.00	
Reserve for Dividends	120,000.00	
Increase in Other Liabilities	31,500.00	
Depreciation and Profit and Loss	4,558.86—	332,477.69
INCREASE IN NET SURPLUS		$100,881.91

J. L. WHITLOCK, Manager Western Department, 208 La Salle Street, Chicago, Ill.

EDWIN G. SEIBELS, Manager Southern Department, Columbia, S. C.

TREZEVANT & COCHRAN, General Agents Texas, Dallas, Tex.

EDWARD E. POTTER, General Agent Pacific Coast, San Francisco, Cal.

T. Y. Brown & Co., Agents
77 William St., New York.

1849 LARGEST FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY 1906
Chartered by the State of Massachusetts.
Incorporated 1849. Charter Perpetual.

SPRINGFIELD
Fire and Marine
INSURANCE COMPANY

OF SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

Cash Capital - - - - - - - $2,000,000.00

Annual Statement, January 1st, 1906.

ASSETS.

Cash on hand, in Banks and Cash Items		$500,266.93
Cash in hands of Agents and in Course of Transmission		664,524.95
Rents and Accrued Interest		48,254.84
Real Estate Unincumbered		477,000.00
Loans on Mortgage (first lien)		512,270.00
Loans on Collateral Security		6,050.00
Bank Stocks	Market Value.	864,840.00
Railroad Stocks	"	2,510,325.00
Miscellaneous Stocks	"	502,500.00
Railroad Bonds	"	809,500.00
Miscellaneous Bonds	"	261,000.00
Total Assets		$7,156,531.72

LIABILITIES.

CAPITAL STOCK	$2,000,000.00
Reserve for Reinsurance	2,907,226.85
Reserve for all Unsettled Claims	225,304.47
Total Liabilities	$5,132,531.32
NET SURPLUS	2,024,000.40
SURPLUS AS REGARDS POLICYHOLDERS	4,024,000.40
LOSSES PAID SINCE ORGANIZATION	36,129,703.52

A. W. DAMON, President. W. J. MACKAY, Sec'y.
CHAS. E. GALACAR, Vice-President. F. H. WILLIAMS, Treas.

Western Department, Chicago, Ill.
A. J. HARDING, Manager.
A. F. DEAN, Ass't Manager. W. A. BLODGETT, 2d Ass't Manager.

Pacific Coast Department, San Francisco, Cal.
GEO. D. DORNIN, Manager.
GEO. W. DORNIN, Ass't Manager. JOHN C. DORNIN, 2d Ass't Manager.

Agencies in all Prominent Localities Throughout the United States.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1906. No. 5.

Published every Saturday by the Underwriter Printing and Publishing Company.

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Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

IT would be premature at this writing to forecast the ultimate action of the life insurance convention which has been in session in Chicago this week, but the proceedings, so far as reported, indicate that all the various devices for the improvement of life insurance and remedial measures affecting its administration will be conveniently bundled into a committee, which will be directed to examine, digest and report at a future time. This is wise, for it is manifestly impossible for a convention which is to sit but two days, and the delegates to which entertain radically diverse views on insurance methods, to formulate a homogeneous scheme. The composition of the committee is such, we notice, as to insure a hot time before it reaches a common point of agreement. The adoption by the convention at the present time of a form of model law which shall contain all the features upon which everybody is in accord, leaving to the future the consideration of those about which there is a difference of opinion, is about all that can be reasonably accomplished. The meeting affords the delegates the opportunity, of course, of airing their views, and it will be observed by our report that the non-insurance delegates have not neglected their good fortune. The permanent influence of the convention on the life insurance situation will not be much affected by these. The possibilities lie with the action of the grinding committee.

WE print the substance of a very interesting—we were almost going to say curious—report prepared by Insurance Commissioner Folk of Tennessee from the responses made by life insurance companies to his inquisitorial demands for information from them about their contributions in the past ten years to political campaign funds, and their payments in gifts and donations of "whatsoever kind," to associations or individuals. The information about political payments needs no further notice at present than that very few companies admit that they made them, and with the exception of those of great companies the contributions were small. It may be suspected, however, that the companies in reporting upon their gifts to worthy objects could hardly resist a little sensation of malicious pleasure in making their confessions to their inquisitive interlocutor. Could it be otherwise when a Kentucky company reported an expenditure of $9 for flowers sent to the funeral of the mother of the second vice president? The Penn Mutual Life proudly acknowledges that it has given a thousand dollars for the support of the Home for Inebriates. A Chicago stock company encourages athletics by fostering its own baseball team, and $115 of its funds have gone toward cheering the champions on to victory. Fresh air funds, yellow fever sufferers, funeral expenses of decrepit agents, pensions to ex-employees, have been some of the objects toward which the generosity of these companies has flowed. But we must protest against the inclusion in the category of gifts, of payments to this paper for furnishing legislative information, unless, indeed, the extreme moderation of the charge for such valuable information is to be regarded as in the nature of a gift on our part. If that was the intention of the esteemed insurance company, we will accept its statement and correct the amount of its bill next year.

THE urgency letter of President Branch, of the Providence-Washington insurance company, to other company managers, favoring the establishment of a bureau for compiling loss statistics, is strongly to be commended. The objection of a number of large companies to contribute the details of their experience on various risks to a common statistical fund has prevented the compilation of a rate record for common use in the business; but the imminence of anti-compact laws in many other States as a result of the United States Supreme Court decision emphasizes the need of an authoritative exhibit to use in combating such legislation with committees and members of legislatures. The attempt has been made in Ohio and other States to enforce compulsory contributions of experience. These efforts have failed hitherto, but in the present temper of legislatures in session and forthcoming this immunity may not be continued. Forcible contribution under the control and direction of the State is undesirable; contribution had better be voluntary and conducted by the officers of the companies. Mr. Branch points out a way to remove the objections to contribution of rate experience to the general fund when he says:

> In the past some companies objected to disclosing their experiences on certain classes of risks, but this objection will not obtain if premiums are ignored and only amounts, losses and their causes are tabulated. Combining the premiums of companies is a waste of time and money, as, owing to the fluctuations of rates, no valuable data can thereby be obtained, but the obtaining of the loss cost of each class, hazard and ultimately of each risk has become an urgent necessity and will prove of great value in the following directions:
>
> First. In combating the demands of the public, brokers and agents for rate reductions by being able to show the approximate cost of the business. This we have not heretofore been able to do.
>
> Second. In meeting anti-compact and other vicious legislation with reliable statistical information and argument.
>
> Third. In determining the proper figures for the various items of schedules, which have heretofore been made from guesswork or insufficient data, causing differing charges for the same risks to be made in different localities and rendering all schedules illogical and unexplainable.
>
> Fourth. In detecting, with but little delay, new hazards, and determining their cost in order that proper charges may be made therefor before they have rendered whole classes of risks unprofitable.

A statistical bureau which would carefully and intelligently digest and classify all the data of all the companies would in a year or two possess for their use a close approximation to the value of all important risks differen-

tiated by localities. As Mr. Branch suggests, the bureau might be tried experimentally in the Eastern and Middle States first. Its success would serve to steady the business and remove to a large degree the dissatisfaction of property owners with rates.

Facts and Opinions.

At the regular monthly meeting of the board of directors of the **Equitable Life Assurance Society,** held on Wednesday, the resignation of Chauncey M. Depew, as a member of the board of directors, was accepted, and Henry Rogers Winthrop, who for some time has been financial manager and assistant secretary of the society, was elected treasurer. Senator Depew's resignation has been in the hands of President Morton since December. No statement regarding the action of the board concerning Senator Depew's retirement was made beyond the mere announcement of the fact. At the meeting of the board thirty-six members were present. The president submitted the report of the chartered accountants who have been examining the company. It was not given out to the press, and the trustees present signed pledges not to make their copies public until a vote of the board authorized it. President Morton announced that the Equitable would write no more new business in Australia, Russia, Norway and Sweden, and that from now on the policy of the new management will be to withdraw from every section of the world where insurance cannot be conducted at a profit. A suit has been instituted by the company against James H. Hyde for the recovery of approximately $72,000, representing Mr. Hyde's profits in syndicates which sold securities to the society. Mr. Morton also announced that suits were in preparation against various men who had profited by the leases of space in buildings owned by the Equitable to some of the so called subsidiary companies, and that these and other claims of the society growing out of acts of the old Equitable administration were being pushed as rapidly as possible. "I have gone far enough into the affairs of the Equitable," said President Morton this week, "to announce an annual saving of $1,250,000, all of which will go to the policyholders. Over $500,000 of this saving comes in increased income received from bank deposits. These deposits have been cut from $36,000,000 to $11,000,000, and the interest increase is 2 per cent. An increase of one-half of 1 per cent. has been secured on the company's funds which are still held in banking houses." The annual meeting of the society will take place February 28, when there may be further official changes.

Decrees dealing with **governmental control of French insurance companies** appeared in the *Official Journal* this week. No mention is made of the foreign companies doing business there. The decrees deal at considerable length with the subjects of registration, formation, bookkeeping and the expenses of management. Hereafter registration will be considered as void unless the company registered starts operations within a year after notice of the formation has been given. The expenses of formation will be limited in the case of mutual or tontine companies to a proportional part of the original capital, while in the case of other companies the expenses must not exceed one-quarter of the original working capital. In all cases these expenses must be written off within a period of fifteen years. Other details are:

Calculations regarding premiums, reserves and expenses of management take up several columns of the *Official Journal.* According to these calculations mutual companies which do not pay commissions or give rebates will be limited to interest charges of 3½ per cent. on the expenses of management, 6 per cent. on the gross of premiums and 1 per cent. for collections. Other companies will be permitted to deduct for death policies 3½ per cent. for management, 6 per cent. on each gross premium for collection, and 1 per cent. of assured capital for canvassing. For endowment policies the limitations are one-tenth of 1 per cent. of assured capital on each annual premium for the expenses of management, 2½ per cent. on each gross premium for collection and one-half per cent. on each gross premium for canvassing. For annuities the expenses allowed are 5 per cent. on the amount of each annuity for management and 3 per cent. on the gross amount for canvassing. Every company must keep separate registers for the different kinds of policies, with data regarding their beginning or expiration, the number of premiums payable and of their annulment owing to lapses. The entire control of the insurance business is placed under the supervision of the Minister of Commerce.

In his report for 1906 President Frelinghuysen, of the **Mutual Benefit Life** of Newark, says:

We have written and revived policies insuring for $61,363,148, being an increase over similar business in 1904 of $6,561,445, a gratifying result in such disturbed times, and without any change in our methods of securing or accepting business. Our expense ratio this year is 15.4 against 15.3 last year, caused not by any voluntary increase, but by the expense of the State examination and by the increase in our Western loan expenses known as investment expenses, the supply of money during the year in the West making it impossible to secure mortgages with the borrower paying the negotiation charges. Without these two items, our expense ratio would have decreased this year to 15.1 per cent. Our invested funds have yielded a gross income of 4.85 per cent. on par values, and 4.78 per cent. on market values. All of our investments are made by the unanimous vote of the board on recommendation of the finance committee. Besides first mortgages on real estate, railroad bonds are bought on the open market. No investments are ever made for the development of any scheme or enterprise, nor have any of our directors or officers any interest, direct or indirect, in any mortgages or securities other than that of securing the safest investment at the most favorable rates; and have never participated in nor made any profit out of any investments of the company's funds. Our surplus has reached a goodly sum by annual accretions during sixty years, generally very small and in amounts which would not materially add to the aggregate of our annual dividends. The earnings of this surplus help to pay dividends to our policyholders. It is invested together with our assets and not separately, and is treated in the same manner as our other funds. It affords no peculiar opportunity for investing in any other way, as all funds are alike subjected to the judgment and discretion of our board, and invested with the sole object of conserving the interests of their trust.

The total assets of the company on December 31, 1905, nearly touched $100,000,000. They were, to be exact, $99,127,140. The surplus at market values was $7,652,808. The policies in force were 168,643, insuring for $392,548,092.

What the property interests of the country may **expect from the Socialists** when they secure control of the United States of America was proclaimed by their apostle, Jack London, in an address to Yale University men in New Haven last week. Jack says:

When I write to a Socialist, I start the letter with the phrase, "Dear Comrade," and I close the letter with the phrase, "Yours for the revolution." That is the practice among 400,000 Socialists in the United States. There are throughout the civilized world 7,000,000 Socialists, organized in a great international movement. Their purposes are the destruction of bourgeois society, the doing away with the ownership of capital, and with patriotism; in brief, the overthrow of existing society. We will be content with nothing less than all power, with the possession of the whole world. We Socialists will wrest the power from the present rulers. By war, if necessary. Stop us if you can! The grip of Socialism is tightening on the world. The blood-red banner will soon be waving wildly in all winds. This is not a vague uprising. The propaganda is based on intelligence and on economic necessity. The workers as a class are fighting the capitalists as a class. The capitalists are in the minority. We are in the majority. All capitalists are bad and all workingmen are good. If people object to our program because of the Constitution, then to hell with the Constitution. Yes, to hell with the Constitution. President Roosevelt is frightened by our revolution. He says that class war is the greatest danger to the country. Class war is our watchword.

The 400,000 Socialists who, London says, permeate this country already, are almost wholly foreigners spewed out of Europe and seeking fortunes in this overhospitable land. Not a few are

rank anarchists, like London and Czolgosz. Americans can be depended upon to take care of them should there ever be need to do so.

Several months ago the **Boston Board of Fire Underwriters** adopted a scientific **short rate table** devised by one of its members, Mr. William Garrison Reed, and not long after that the New England Insurance Exchange followed suit. But company pressure soon induced the Exchange to rescind the innovation and take up again with the Western Union table, and the same thing was done by the Boston Board at its meeting last Tuesday. So the days of the Reed table are numbered in New England, the only section in which it had gained any recognition. At Tuesday's meeting of the Board action was also taken whereby that body put itself on record as being in sympathy with the movement to repeal the laws prohibiting the sale of spirituous refreshment in Boston after 11 p. m., and prohibiting such sale entirely where the dispensing establishment stands within 400 feet of a school house. The Board voted to substitute the words "common carriers' liability" for the word merchandise in the rule recently adopted to write floating policies on goods in transit at 1½ per cent. The avalanche of hostile bills, directed against fire insurance interests in general and the Board in particular, which have been introduced in the Massachusetts Legislature was the theme of energetic remarks by Secretary Osborne Howes, who detailed the features of some of the more flagrant measures, and emphasized the necessity of alert defensive action. Mr. Frederick B. Carpenter was elected to assume the presidency of the Board until the complete recovery of Mr. George P. Field, who is rapidly convalescing.

The **Penn Mutual Life** transacted a great business in 1905. Its new writings were 34,289 policies for $86,719,800, and this advanced its business in force to 159,224 policies, insuring $377,438,264. There was no lack of progress in this fine company in the year of great life insurance trouble. Assets now amount to $76,344,512 and surplus to $10,081,370. Regarding the financial policy of the company President West says:

The officers of the company do not receive any commission upon the purchase or sale of securities, or for procuring loans on bonds and mortgages, or any compensation whatsoever other than their salaries fixed by the board of trustees. The officers or employees do not share in any profit upon investments purchased through the action of the company in connection with any bank, broker, trust or other company. The company has incurred no improper or excessive legal expenses, the aggregate for such expenditure for 1905 being $16,812.43, and incurred mainly in connection with investments and not in any political direction whatsoever. No investments are made without the approval and authorization of the finance committee, which meets weekly, consisting of six members of the board of trustees, the president, the vice presidents and the manager of the loan department, which investments are subject to review by the whole board of trustees, to whom complete reports are made monthly. The company does not transact a banking business. It makes temporary loans upon collaterals in limited amounts, when the security is undoubted. The aggregate of such loans is comparatively small, and the interest earned is entirely satisfactory.

In their fifty-fourth annual report the directors of the **Massachusetts Mutual Life** of Springfield say:

The company has continued its conservative policy in respect to new business, and, while it has sought to place upon its books annually such an amount as might, by reason of recent selection, favorably affect the mortality, the purpose has been to effect that gradual decline in the percentage of the premiums used for expenses and taxes which should naturally follow a moderate increase from year to year in the amount of new insurance issued. The amount of new business written each year during the last few years exceeds the amount of annual new business written fourteen years ago a little over $6,000,000, and during the same period the reduction in the expense ratio has amounted to over 8 per cent. of the premiums. This reduction would not have been possible had there been a large yearly increase in new insurance written. The company issues no accumulation policies, but makes annual distributions of surplus on all life and endowment policies, and such surplus may be used in any one of several ways, as the policyholder may elect. The principal feature of the company's policy contracts is protection rather than investment. Something over 88 per cent. of the insurance written in 1905 was on the life plan or for terms of not less than twenty years, and over 90 per cent. of the total insurance now in force is of the same kind.

The gross assets of the company at the close of 1905 were $40,082,953, and the excess of assets over all liabilities was $3,366,374. The new business in 1905 was $26,416,432. The insurance in force was 87,036 policies for $208,198,351.

The chairman of the **New York fire patrol committee** is investigating the workings and practicability of an automobile fire patrol similar to the one in use in Cincinnati. While it is claimed that the Cincinnati wagon can climb any hill in the city, and is doing good work and giving complete satisfaction, there is still some doubt expressed in New York as to the advisability of installing similar ones here. The cost would be $4,500 and $5,000 per wagon, and it would be necessary to keep horses in reserve in case of accidents or breakdowns. It is thought by some that as the city is in need of about four additional patrols, these should be installed first, and then, as improvements are made in the service, new automobile wagons can be purchased. The city will then be more fully protected and at an earlier date than if the appropriation be spent now on what might prove a disappointment. The committee is further investigating a plan for attaching a drain and hose to the usual hole drilled in floors to carry off water after a fire. This device also emanates from Cincinnati, and has proven a successful factor in lowering the percentage of water damage in that city.

New insurance written and delivered by the **Union Mutual Life of Maine** in 1905 showed an increase of 533 policies and $629,278 insurance over the transactions of 1904, the 1905 figures being 7,207 paid-for policies, covering $9,713,736 insurance. The assets at the close of 1905 were $12,056,992 and the surplus was $708,442. The insurance in force was $64,163,238. The directors of the company in their annual report say:

It is in the good which life insurance accomplishes that its most important mission lies, that its real reason for existence appears, and in no better way is this comprehensively expressed than by the large total of payments to policyholders during the fifty-six years that the Union Mutual has been doing business, this sum, with the ending of 1905, aggregating $37,861,527.49. Futile indeed would it be to pretend to state in any other form what life insurance is continually doing for the upliftment of the troubled, the relief of those who might otherwise be needy, yet these very aids which are so varied in operation, so widespread in benefit, so helpful in result as to be beyond enumeration, constitute the underlying cause for the deep founded popularity of life insurance. It is by such lines of thought that a true appreciation is gained of all that life insurance has done and is doing for that large class of people who abidingly manifest their faith in the solid mathematical principles around which the doctrine of protection centres.

The last day of December marked the close of the nineteenth business year of the **Security Mutual Life of Binghamton.** It can claim that during that time it has paid all its valid claims in full immediately on receipt of proof, that its gross income of $12,000,000 has been disbursed without $1 of misappropriation, and that it has never had to foreclose but one mortgage, and upon its entire investment in mortgages, bonds, stock and collateral loans it has never met with but one loss, which amounted to $100, which the company accepted rather than incur the expense and trouble of a foreclosure. This is a record of good management for a life insurance company well worth having. The assets at the close of the year were $3,637,838 and the surplus to policyholders $520,985, while the insurance in force was $51,010,771, an increase during the year in assets of $568,498 and in insurance in force of $3,966,114. The Security Mutual Life is the

only New York company which registers policies with the Insurance Department.

The Little Rock *Democrat* says that it is almost certain that one of the biggest issues in Arkansas when the next Legislature is to be elected will be the **repeal** of that part **of the anti-trust law** that relates to fire insurance. The property owning element is bitterly opposed **to** a law which excludes the companies from the State, and will be in the field early with agitation for repeal. The feeling of this class is voiced by Judge Basham, of the Little Rock bar, who is reported to have said on this subject:

I am as much opposed to trusts as any man. I believe that any set of men who deliberately enter into a combination to extort undue or dishonest profits are honest only because there is a law against stealing. But I have watched carefully this Arkansas anti-trust law in its operations, and the only result I have seen is that we get inferior fire insurance at the same high rate or even higher than before. And then in my own experience and the observation of the business of my clients I find the annoyances are constantly growing. Business men with large lines of insurance are experiencing the greatest difficulties in placing it, and often much valuable time is lost when policies must be sent to New York to be transferred.

The début of the **Western Reserve insurance company of Cleveland, Ohio,** in Massachusetts and New York, under the chaperonage of such popular agencies as Winchester & Watt, of Boston, and Blagden, Kelley & Fuller, of New York, is an evidence of the proper spirit in a small company, which, having made a successful run at home, wishes to go abroad for new conquests. There is a crying **need for regularly entered companies** to handle the business now going to the surplus liners. Many of the large New York agencies are constantly on the lookout for sound, reputable companies, and a regret is expressed by many that some which are now confining themselves to their own home States do not step out carefully in fresh fields and seek their fortunes where others have made theirs. There is no lack of good business in the offices of a good agency, and no company need fear that a good past record will be spoiled if it is careful to appoint good underwriters to represent it.

The **Millers National Fire of Chicago** has been caught in the tendency to investigate mutual concerns. It issues both a mutual and a cash policy, but is controlled by the policyholders, who, at the annual meeting in Chicago last week, presented resolutions authorizing a committee of policyholders to investigate the company, in view of the recent revelations regarding mutual management. The officers, who have been in control through proxy holders, were able to vote this down, but were forced to substitute another motion providing for an investigation by a committee of three, to be appointed by the board of directors. Heretofore the officers have controlled the board of directors, but at this meeting a miller was elected director, giving the millers the majority on the board. John R. Walsh, the Chicago banker who failed recently, was also a director, having been one of the owners of the original charter, and resigned, and another miller was elected in his place.

Although exonerating **Mrs. Susan Day Parker,** yachtswoman of New York, for any intentional mistakes in making inventory of her claims for fire loss on the yacht Scythian, burned off Marblehead, Mass., in 1902, the jury found for the Liverpool and London and Globe insurance company Saturday last by returning a verdict of $1,663.44 in its favor. The insurance company sued to recover $7,000, a third of the amount of the insurance paid on the burned yacht, insured in various companies for $135,000, including furniture. Much sensational testimony came out in the trial, especially the statement of Captain Cardiff, of the Scythian, who claimed that Mrs. Parker's husband agreed to pay him $10,000 to set fire to the yacht so that the insurance could be collected. Cardiff, however, disappeared when the trial came on, and his testimony could not be substantiated. A stay of execution was granted for sixty days on application of Mrs. Parker's counsel.

The **pension fund of the fire insurance patrol of Chicago** now amounts to over $100,000 and the trustees are seeking to devise some practical and actuarial plan for handling it so as to make sure that benefits allowed will not be too great for its ability to meet. The fund is supplied by an assessment of 2 per cent. on the 2 per cent. tax paid by the companies for the maintenance of the fire insurance patrols, together with a 1 per cent. a month deduction from the salaries of the men. Under a certain age, or period of service, men can retire on half pay, and half pay is granted to the families of dead patrolmen, but these certificates can be scaled in case the fund is not sufficient to meet them in full. The fund is not replenished as it would be by gifts from citizens whose property has been protected, owing to the fact that it is generally supposed that the fire insurance patrol men share in the benefits of the firemen's pension fund, to which business men regularly contribute.

A meeting of the **British policyholders of the Mutual Life insurance company of New York,** representing policies amounting to $2,545,000, was held in London on Thursday in the office of Lord Northcliffe (formerly Sir Alfred Harmsworth). Resolutions were passed, copies of which will be forwarded to New York, demanding the representation of the British policyholders in the home board of the company, and that the company deposit in Great Britain securities equal to the value of its liabilities in that country. The meeting pledged itself to have the matter raised in Parliament if a satisfactory reply was not received. Members of both houses were present, and accepted the responsibility of bringing up the question. The representative of a firm of London accountants, who is now in New York examining the securities of the company, has cabled for the assistance of an actuary.

Marked changes in the **attitude of the Chicago fire department toward sprinkler equipments** are shown by an ordinance now before the building committee of the council. It was suggested by the fire department, which realized its inadequacy to cope with fires that once got started in big cold storage warehouses, grain elevators, etc., and asked that they be compelled to install automatic sprinklers. A few years ago it was impossible to induce the fire department to attach an engine to an outside sprinkler coupler, even when the fire was a serious one, and that they now ask for the aid of sprinklers shows a material change in sentiment. The ordinance is being opposed by the stockyards packers on the ground that it would take ten years to equip all the cold storage plants there under existing conditions as to material and help, and the ordinance will doubtless be modified.

Charged with conspiracy in **insuring a man dying from consumption** for $2,000 in the Woodmen of the World and making one of their number, P. J. Kiernan, the beneficiary, Louis Stroud and Martin Brophy, secretary of the order, have been arrested at Waterbury, Conn. McKiernan, the third alleged conspirator, is under surveillance at his home, where he is ill in bed. The plot was exposed by the widow of the dead man, who had been told by her husband when dying that she would receive $500 as a death benefit. When offered $100 by McKiernan's representatives she refused, and finally

was settled with for $400. The Woodmen's medical examiner was deceived by the substitution of a strong man for the consumptive, Frank Reynolds. Brophy, one of the alleged conspirators, is secretary of the Waterbury lodge.

In one of the largest insurance offices on William street in the metropolis some alterations are being made. In the course of the work it became necessary to remove the cashier's desk and the wicket surrounding it. When this was done the other day it was discovered that some electric light wires for portable incandescent lamps had been laid along the floor under the desk and close to the woodwork. Dust was thick all over and around the wires, practically concealing them from ordinary observation, and it was remarked what a good chance some innocent looking mouse might have in gnawing the insulation, short circuiting the wires and starting a blaze in the dust. It might be well to look into the **"careless janitor hazard"** a little, or else to arrange for running all electric light wires overhead.

The **loving cup** presented by the employees of the home office of the New York Life insurance company **to John A. McCall,** former president, is made of silver, stands about 16 inches high, and is exquisitely etched by one of Tiffany's most expert artists. The background of the etching is of copper beaten into the silver, thus giving a very rich effect. The inscription, which reads, "To John A. McCall, presented by the home office employees as an expression of their sincere affection, respect and confidence," is etched to correspond with the design of the cup, and the copper background beaten on in the same way. On the other side of the cup, opposite to the inscription, is the monogram richly etched. The cup is the only one like it in the United States.

Three leading fire insurance companies are now undergoing investigation before the Insurance Department of Washington State on the charge of **violating the anti-compact law of 1897** by forming a combination to control the rates on insurance. These companies are the Ætna, the Norwich Union and the Royal. Although these three companies are only named as defendants in the complaint, it is the contention of the complainants that all of the eighty companies doing business in Washington State are parties to the compact. The complainants are H. McCormick, W. C. Miles and W. C. Yoeman, of South Bend. The insurance companies have a San Francisco attorney in addition to John H. Powell and H. T. Granger, of Seattle.

The **report of the Fowler investigating committee of the New York Life** will not be presented to the trustees until February 8, as information has been received that an accounting by Andrew Hamilton of the disposition of the funds which he received from the company for legislative purposes is on its way hither from Paris. It is understood that if Mr. Hamilton has sent a full and convincing account which clears the men who were then officers of the company it may have effect on the campaign which the company's agents have started in various parts of the country to re-elect John A. McCall president of the company. There is also the possibility that it will bring about a repayment of the $235,000 which President McCall recently paid the company.

A Nashville special dispatch to the New York *Commercial* says that the following summary of **fire losses in the South in 1905** is based on an estimated total of $175,000,000 for the United States. This summary by States follows: Tennessee, $4,187,700; Texas, $6,251,300; Louisiana, $5,995,000; Kentucky, $3,221,900; Arkansas, $2,547,600; Alabama, $2,314,400; Virginia, $2,062,500; Georgia, $1,851,300; Mississippi, $1,819,400; North Carolina, $1,377,200; Florida, $1,043,900; South Carolina, $936,100; total, $33,608,300. Three million two hundred thousand dollars in Louisiana's loss represents railroad property not insured by companies. Eliminating this item would put Tennessee in second place. In the figures given, Tennessee occupies third place.

Large life insurance salaries are not paid in America alone. We learn from our Toronto contemporary, *Office and Field,* that Mr. Dewey, general manager of the Prudential of London, receives a yearly salary of about $100,000. He is not an actuary, but is a successful business manager. Up to date none of the policyholders of the Prudential have been kicking about Mr. Dewey's wages, which goes to show that it takes a whole lot of newspaper hot stuff, with appropriate scare heads, to arouse a company's policyholders to a sense of the wrongs they suffer when they pay a competent servant one-tenth of 1 per cent. of their premiums for taking good care of their funds and making them grow.

Holding that because the policyholder knowingly increased the risk by entering another man's house, the Ætna Life is resisting payment of the $4,000 insurance claim of the widow of **Dr. William J. Simpson,** of Weston, Mo., shot by Julius Rumple June 3, 1904. This claim that the dead physician vitiated his insurance by being himself **a violator of the law** by his action appears in the answer filed in the St. Joseph, Mo., division of the United States Circuit Court. The company claims liability for only $400 of the amount of the policy, which was taken out less than three months prior to the tragedy. The shooting occurred because Rumple believed that the physician was too attentive to his wife.

The Attorney General of New York has announced that he sustains the action of his assistant, Joseph G. Dudley, in denying an application of John F. Nagle, of Buffalo, for permission to bring an action to dissolve the **Buffalo Association of Fire Underwriters.** This association, it is alleged, establishes and maintains uniform rates among its members in the city of Buffalo. The application was based on the ground that this was in violation of the Donnelly anti-trust law, which refers to a monopoly "of any article or commodity of common use." The Attorney General holds that fire insurance is not an "article or commodity of common use" within the meaning of the anti-trust law.

A plan to insure concerted action, when necessary, by the fire fighting forces of all the cities and towns **in Greater Boston** has been formulated by Benjamin W. Wells, fire commissioner of that city. Each department is to retain its own identity and separate management, but will be under a working agreement by which the Boston department will answer all second alarms in the towns and cities of the district, and vice versa, without any special requests being made, thus gaining quickness and more general distribution of apparatus. The scheme, which has not yet been worked out in all its details, has already received the indorsement of most of the departments within its purview.

The **Security Fire** insurance company **of Little Rock** has been placed in the hands of a receiver. The liabilities of the company are placed at $123,000 and the assets at $39,000. It is understood that the indebtedness will wipe out the capital stock of $50,000 and require $34,000 in addition to liquidate its liabilities. The cause of the trouble is the taking over of the assets and liabilities of the old Security Mutual, which was absorbed by the Security Fire one year ago. The com-

pany has about $4,000,000 insurance in force, and received in premiums during 1905 over $70,000. The Federal Surety Company of Indianapolis is on the bond of the company to the amount of $20,000.

A serious **conflagration hazard at Portland, Me.**, is reported by General Inspector William H. Johnson, of the National Board of Fire Underwriters. Frame buildings in large numbers in the business section and along the water front menace the city's safety. Covered piers along Commercial street, from Franklin to State streets, where are woodworking mills and lumber yards, add to the danger. The report recommends increasing the fire department force. There is a good reinforced supply of water and suitable pressure for steam fire engines. The report mentions a number of places as dangerous localities where fires are apt to occur.

There is a general expectation in Canada, according to *Office and Field,* that **life insurance affairs in the Dominion** will shortly be **investigated** in some way under Dominion authority. So much doubt and suspicion have been created by the sensational daily press of Canada of local insurance companies that an investigation is needed by them to quiet public apprehension. It could be conducted either by the Dominion Insurance Department or a royal commission or a Parliamentary committee. As the first is also attacked by the newspapers, one of the other mediums will probably be adopted.

The **appointment of E. T. Cairns** to succeed Everett U. Crosby as New York manager of the improved risk department of the North British and Mercantile, with the title of general agent, has been announced by Manager E. G. Richards. Mr. Cairns has been in charge of similar work for the company in Chicago for three years past, and prior to that had been under Mr. Crosby, who recently entered the Philadelphia agency firm of Henry W. Brown & Co. George P. Davis, an inspector of improved risks for the company in New York city, will succeed Mr. Cairns in the Chicago field.

Chicago fire underwriters are congratulating **Arthur Hawxhurst, insurance manager of Marshall Field & Co.**, over the distinction which came to him by being personally mentioned in Mr. Field's will with a gift of $10,000 for long and faithful service. The relations of Marshall Field & Co., the largest insurers in the West with the fire insurance people, have always been pleasant and cordial, and much of this is due to the courtesy and thorough understanding of the business by Mr. Hawxhurst, who has been the manager of that department for many years.

Records of **suicides in Chicago** lead to the claim by newspapers there that the recent exploitation of Dr. Osler's alleged theory—which he denies—about the advisability of chloroforming men above the age of sixty, has had its effect on some people above that age. The suicide figures for 1905 showed an increase of 25.8 per cent. over the figures of 1903 for the suicides of men between sixty and seventy years old, and of 11.4 per cent. over the number of 1904. Between the ages of seventy and eighty there was an increase of 33.3 per cent.

Insurance amounting to $100,000 protects against possible loss the owners of fowl and beast performers appearing at the **New York Hippodrome.** Dick, a thirteen year old goose who has traveled widely, is insured for $2,000; Phebe, an educated pig, for $300, and Tubby, a trained Connecticut turkey, for $200. The insurance carried on fifty horses, all thoroughbreds, Persian and Arabian steeds being among the number, is the largest amount ever placed on a like number of horses.

An office **in Boston** was opened last Monday by the **Johnson & Higgins** brokerage corporation of New York, whose former representative in Boston was Frank Gair Macomber. The new office is located in the Employers' Liability Building at Broad and Water streets, and is in charge of Theodore W. Gore, an average adjuster of long experience. Edward S. Brockie, who comes from the home office of the corporation, has established himself in the Boston office as an independent broker.

The report of the American Audit Company on the condition of the **Interstate Life insurance company of Indianapolis** shows that there was an increase in the company's assets in 1905 of $150,742 and of insurance in force of $7,245,207. The total assets at the beginning of the new year were $1,397,606, the surplus to policyholders was $209,000, and the insurance in force was $17,643,704. Reference is made to the annual report of the company in our advertising columns.

A statement comes from the District Attorney's office that Mr. Jerome will probably use the case of John Williams, a policyholder in the **Mutual Reserve Life**, when he presents the affairs of that company to the grand jury. Williams declares that he took out a policy for $2,000 in the Mutual Reserve in 1884, and that he has since paid premiums amounting to nearly $3,000. He recently offered to surrender his policy for a cash payment and got an offer of $15.13.

The grand jury in Philadelphia has indicted **Horace E. James,** vice president of the Philadelphia Fire insurance company, on a charge of perjury in swearing to the contents of the annual statement of his company, filed February 8, 1904. It is denied that the capital stock of the company to the extent of $100,000 had been paid up, or that the company's real estate was unencumbered or had a market value of $50,000, to which items Mr. James swore.

The final **consolidation of the Pacific Mutual Life and the Conservative Life,** as the Pacific-Conservative Life, will be completed about the middle of February. It is understood that F. M. Russell, superintendent of agents of the Conservative Life, is to be secretary of the new company. The new territory will be opened up under the branch office system, and the intermediate business will be restricted to the Pacific Coast and mountain field.

Crazy for the stage was Tracy Buddington, a seventeen year old junior clerk in the Astor National Bank, New York, who disappeared about ten days ago after he had made collections of $600 for the bank. The **United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company,** which was on his bond for $5,000, located the lad Thursday at the Hotel Jefferson, St. Louis, Mo., where he had attracted attention by his lavish tips for trivial services. He had $50 when arrested.

Last Saturday the **New England Insurance Exchange** had the pleasure of welcoming its first president, United States Manager **Uberto C. Crosby,** of the Royal Exchange, who addressed the members and wakened memories of "auld lang syne" in many a heart. Mr. Crosby was not only an active force in the development of the Exchange, but is the only

man ever accorded the honor of two re-elections to the presidency of that body.

One Walter Hickling, an ex-industrial insurance agent who was bonded by the **American Surety Company of New York,** and for whose account that company paid $183, was sentenced at Media, Pa., on January 27, by Judge Isaac M. Johnson, to six months' imprisonment in the county jail. Hickling's arrest was effected through the efforts of the inspectors of the surety company. He has been in jail awaiting sentence for over a month.

Some of the Iowa life insurance companies are displeased with the circulars sent out by President Rawson of the Des Moines, announcing the opposition of the Iowa companies to the **proposed investigation by the Iowa Legislature.** They say that while they do not think it necessary they have no opposition to offer, and if the Legislature insists upon the trouble and expense they are ready to furnish any information desired.

The conflict between the Paul brothers and the **Brotherhood of American Yeomen** of Des Moines has been revived by a suit begun by Dr. C. P. Paul, medical director from 1896 to 1902, claiming $30,000 as due for commissions and salaries. He holds that as the order was young, and he was interested in its success, he did not make a charge, but now that he has been ousted thinks he is entitled to pay.

A neat souvenir for a New Year's greeting has been sent out by the **Standard Life and Accident** of Detroit. It consists of a daily reminder and cash account, with numerous pages of miscellaneous general information. It is bound in blue leather and the pages are gilt-edged, like the policies of the company, with whose compliments the diary is given.

The committee on revision of rules of the **Chicago Board of Underwriters** includes a number of men who are in favor of a reduction of rates on preferred business. It has been unable to get any such reduction through the board, but now proposes to apply the co-insurance clause to preferred risks and to allow a reduction for its use.

The **Citizens Life of Louisville** is backing a bill in the Kentucky Legislature requiring all life companies organized in the State to keep constantly on deposit with the State Treasurer securities equal to the cash value of outstanding policies. This is to be in addition to the $100,000 deposit already required.

Application has been made in Georgia for a charter for the **Colonial Securities Company of Atlanta** with the following incorporators: John B. Miller, New York; J. F. Schwarmann and John T. Moody, Atlanta. The capital is $200,000, on which a general insurance business will be transacted.

The **marine insurance companies** all report a fair year's business for 1905. The annual report of the Federal insurance company of New Jersey shows assets of $2,307,539.89 and a surplus of $853,157.54. The reports of the foreign companies will be ready in about two weeks.

An open letter has been addressed by Capel E. Le Jeune, of New York, to Governor Higgins, asking for an **investigation** by the Legislature **of casualty and surety companies** on the ground that, as a demoralization in rates exists, loose practices have grown up in some companies.

Some of the **St. Louis** general agencies had an unusually **low loss ratio for 1905.** Wall & Whittemore had a loss ratio of 12 per cent. on $400,000 of premiums, while W. H. Markham & Co. got through the year with 30 per cent. on $700,000 of premiums, local and foreign.

The annual dinner of the **Boston Life Underwriters' Association** will take place Wednesday evening, February 21. President Scovel, of the National Association; Rev. Edward M. Noyes, of West Newton, Mass., and other speakers are expected as guests.

The effects of Superintendent Vandiver's fulminations against the **New York Life in Missouri** are shown in the falling off of its new business in that State in 1905 compared with 1904 of $2,651,000, while the lapsed and ceased account increased $615,572.

With a home office in Valley City, S. Dak., and a capital of $100,000, the **International Fire and Marine** insurance company has been incorporated. Officers elected are: Frank White, president; W. W. Smith, secretary, and Darby O'Malley, treasurer.

The **Cincinnati Mutual Fire insurance company** has appointed W. L. Pettibone, in the city of New York, its general agent for surplus lines. The company has $10,000 cash and $50,000 in policy notes as capital. J. H. Leiding is secretary and manager.

A report had currency in London this week that the Royal and Liverpool and London and Globe were **about to merge.** Neither Mr. Beddell nor Mr. Eaton had any information to that effect, and both pronounced the rumor to be unworthy of respect.

Complaints have been filed by the State Auditor of Nebraska against ten leading fire insurance companies for being members of the **Nebraska Inspection Bureau,** an organization which, it is charged, violates the anti-compact law of the State.

Two fire insurance companies were **admitted to Massachusetts** last Monday—the Western Reserve of Cleveland, Ohio, represented by Winchester & Watt, of Boston, and the Union of Buffalo, represented by Prescott Chamberlain, of that city.

The stock companies have been successful in recovering a number of desirable sprinklered risks from the mutuals in the past few months, and have just added a large portion of the line of the **Adams-Bagnall Electric Company of Cleveland.**

The **local fire insurance agents in Des Moines** have got together since the abolition of the local board and have perfected arrangements by which rates will be maintained there, based on the Bennett advisory estimates.

The United Firemen's has withdrawn from **Paducah and Mayfield, Ky.,** and reinsured its business in the Providence-Washington, heavy loss ratio and exorbitant license fees being given as the reason.

The plant of the **Hastings Table Company** at Hastings, Mich., has been equipped and written in the Western Sprin-

kled Risk Association at 50 cents for three years, as against a former rate of $3.20.

Following the resignation of Mr. George P. Field, the trustees of the **Insurance Library Association of Boston** on Friday of last week elected Mr. A. K. Simpson as president of the association.

The **State Fire of Omaha** is preparing to double its paid-up stock, bringing it up to $100,000, the amount of the subscribed stock, and retiring the stockholders' notes.

The Wisconsin Supreme Court on Tuesday **declared unconstitutional** the law of 1903 which authorized mutual insurance companies to reorganize as stock companies.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Delaware Fire of Dover, Del.: Stone, Mathews & Co., of Philadelphia, resident agents for the Quaker City; McGuire & Co., at Syracuse; Foley & Vines, at Albany; MacDonald & Co., at Troy, and James C. McDonald, at Schenectady.

Dubuque Fire and Marine: John M. Whiton & Co., metropolitan district managers.

Jefferson Fire of Philadelphia: William B. Pierce, of Detroit, general agent for Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Metropolitan Life: H. W. Pittman transferred from the superintendency of the Lexington to the Louisville office; R. C. Ware, of Owensboro, succeeds him at Lexington.

Security Mutual Life: Ancil Power, manager for Missouri and southeastern Iowa; J. I. Coats, of Sedalia, Mo., manager for western Missouri.

Mr. E. S. Brockie, of the marine department of Johnson & Higgins, and formerly located in the New York office, was transferred to the Boston office of that firm on Tuesday last, where he will have charge of the marine end also. The fire manager has not yet been appointed. Johnson & Higgins were formerly represented in Boston by Frank Gair Macomber.

Mr. M. O. Garner, of the claim department of the Maryland Casualty Company, who has been located for some time past at Atlanta, Ga., was transferred to the New York office at 76 William street on January 15. He is succeeded at Atlanta by John Ridgeley, Jr., formerly located at the home office of the company in Baltimore.

Mr. George W. Taylor, of Boston, vice president, director and Eastern manager for the Security Fire of Baltimore, has sold out his interest in that company and retires from all further connection with it. The Eastern business of the company, hitherto directed by Mr. Taylor, will be conducted from the head office at Baltimore.

Supreme Court Justice Henry A. Childs, of Medina, N. Y., is "named" for Superintendent of Insurance to succeed Mr. Hendricks. Justice Childs has reached the retiring age of seventy from the bench and has been urged by prominent persons upon the Governor for the superintendentship.

Insurance Commissioner Folk, of Tennessee, is seeking re-election from the next Legislature, to the office of State Treasurer, of which the insurance commissionership is a part. There are other candidates, among them L. K. Hart, chairman of the Knoxville Board of Fire Underwriters.

Mr. Albert M. Johnson, who has been vice president of the National Life of the United States of America, has been elected president of the company, succeeding P. M. Starnes, who resigned in December because of impaired health. Mr. Starnes is now in California.

Mr. James G. Hardle, of Philadelphia, formerly with the Spring Garden of Philadelphia, has become special agent for the companies represented by the Quaker City general agency firm of James F. Stone & Co., in eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Mr. Charles L. Currier, many years ago secretary of the old American insurance company of Chicago, died at Los Angeles, Cal., January 25, aged seventy-seven years. He was quite a well known man on La Salle street in the '70's.

Mr. Charles W. Wilson, of Utica, N. Y., a veteran fire underwriter and agent of the Ætna and Niagara insurance companies, died there of pneumonia January 15, aged fifty-five years.

Judge George H. Noyes, one of the leading lawyers of Milwaukee, has been elected general counsel of the Northwestern Mutual Life, succeeding the late Judge Dyer.

Mr. Alexander Stoddart, manager of the New York Underwriters' Agency, whose sudden illness this week caused concern to his friends, was convalescent yesterday.

Mr. Daniel Spraker, Jr., agent at Albany, N. Y., for the Home and Continental insurance companies, died in Gloversville January 22, aged seventy-three years.

Mr. David Huguenin has succeeded Mr. William M. Bird as president of the Equitable Fire insurance company of Charleston, S. C.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Kentucky.

FRANKFORT, Ky., January 27.—Mr. Johnson has introduced six bills affecting fire insurance companies: An act relating to receipts and expenditures; an act providing a reward of $50 by the Insurance Commissioner for information which may lead to the conviction of any insurance company for violating the law; an act requiring insurance agents to inform patrons whether or not insurance companies they represent are authorized to do business in the State; an act requiring insurance agents to give a $1,000 bond and to be bona fide residents of the State; an act to prevent unjust discrimination of rates by fire insurance companies; an act to prevent writing business except through resident agents and prohibiting soliciting without a license.

FRANKFORT, Ky., January 30.—Mr. Bourne today introduced House Bill No. 366, which provides that every fire and life insurance company doing business in this State shall keep on deposit with the Insurance Commissioner bonds or securities of par value of $100,000 to be subject to judgment demands against such company.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., January 26.—The following bills have been introduced:

By Mr. McKirdy, House Bill No. 606, for legislation to regulate the compensation of insurance brokers and agents.

By Mr. O'Rourke, House Bill No. 607, for legislation to provide that officers of life insurance companies shall not be officers of or concerned in banks, trust companies or other like companies.

By the same member, House Bill No. 608, for legislation relative to the accounts and reports to be kept and made by life insurance companies.

By Mr. Sullivan, House Bill No. 610, for legislation to require common carriers to provide protection to patrons by insurance or otherwise.

By Mr. Thayer, House Bill No. 611, for legislation to prevent fire insurance companies combining to maintain uniform rates.

By Mr. Callahan, House Bill No. 756, for legislation to provide that life insurance policies shall contain statements of the cash surrender values thereof.

By Mr. Barry, House Bill No. 757, for legislation relative to life insurance companies and to the reports and books made and kept by them.

By the same member, House Bill No. 758, for legislation relative to life insurance companies and to the investments made by them.

By Mr. Davenport, House Bill No. 759, for legislation to restrict the investment of life insurance companies.

By the same member, House Bill No. 760, for legislation to provide for standard forms of policies for life insurance companies.

By the same member, House Bill No. 761, for legislation to provide for a more effectual and economical management of life insurance companies.

By the same member, House Bill No. 762, for legislation relative to the non-payment of premiums of life insurance policies.

By the same member, House Bill No. 763, for legislation relative to the expenses of life insurance companies.

By the same member, House Bill No. 764, for legislation to require greater detail in reports of insurance companies.

By the same member, House Bill No. 765, for legislation to require life insurance companies to keep separate accounts and file separate statements of ordinary life and industrial insurance.

BOSTON, Mass., February 1.—The difficulties in the Insurance Committee over the recodification of the insurance laws, according to the recommendation of Governor Guild, have been solved by the reporting in the Senate this afternoon, from the committee, with the dissent of Messrs. Long and Doyle of the House, of a bill to provide for a recodification of the insurance laws by a commission of three to be appointed by the Governor, the commission to report by April 15 of this year, and the expense to be borne by the surplus of the fees collected from the insurance companies.

New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., January 30.—At the hearing today before the Senate and Assembly committees on the Colby-Martin resolution for investigating banking and insurance companies, banks were eliminated from the investigation on account of the opposition of the bankers. The insurance companies declared also that the investigation is needless. The committees are likely to report against an investigation. There will be no action for a week at least, as the Legislature has adjourned to Monday.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 31.—Mr. Carrier introduced House Bill No. 381 today, which adds a new section to the insurance laws, and provides that whenever there is a total loss by fire the full face value of the property shall be paid.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 1.—The only matter of interest in legislative circles this week, relating to insurance, was the passage by both Houses of the Armstrong bill, appropriating $20,000 for printing 5,000 copies of the report, testimony, etc., of the special Legislative Insurance Investigation Committee. No business sessions of either the Senate or the Assembly insurance committees have yet been held.

It is understood that the Armstrong Investigation Committee report will be ready for presentation to the Legislature about February 13.

Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, January 31.—Mr. Arbenz today introduced Senate Bill No. 93, which provides that insurance adjusters selected to adjust a loss by fire shall be residents of the county where the fire occurred.

Pennsylvania.

HARRISBURG, Pa., January 30.—Governor Pennypacker today approved a joint resolution of the special session of the Legislature providing for a sweeping investigation of charges of illegal retention of fees by insurance commissioners for years past. It is charged that secret fees of which the general public was in ignorance made the office worth $100,000 a year to the incumbent. The resolution requires the committee to complete its labors and report to the Legislature by February 6.

David Martin is the present official, he having succeeded Israel W. Durham last July. Mr. Durham is now in California because of poor health, and it is doubtful if he will be able to appear before the committee to explain the charges in connection with his six years' incumbency of the insurance commissionership.

One of the important witnesses will be Robert Forster, actuary of the office, who recently admitted that he collected $33,000 fees last year in his branch alone. Forster said that only a small portion of this sum was retained by himself, the remainder going to an unnamed person.

HARRISBURG, Pa., January 31.—The investigation committee began its labors today and will conclude them by February 6. Among the insurance companies which will be invited to testify will be the Penn Mutual, Provident Life and Trust and Fidelity Mutual Life insurance companies of Philadelphia; the Reliance and the Pittsburgh Life and Trust Company of Pittsburgh. A general invitation will be issued to all insurance and beneficial associations doing business in Pennsylvania. An invitation will also be issued to the State Board of Underwriters.

Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., February 2.—The House Committee on Insurance has reported adversely on the Williams bill to reestablish the anti-compact law. The vote in committee was 7 to 4.

Governor Swenson in his inaugural address today said on the subject of insurance:

There should be legislation and supervision in this State of both life and fire insurance in order to secure as far as possible the solvency of the companies conducting business here, the clearness of contracts and divesting them of ambiguous and misleading statements, to obtain reasonable rates and to prevent the rates charged in Virginia from exceeding those in other States possessed of similar conditions. The life insurance companies have greatly enlarged their fields of operations and have now really become the savings banks of the nation. They hold in trust millions of the earnings and accumulated savings of the people. The rapid increase of life insurance adds each year to this great fund. So vast is this trust fund, so numerous its beneficiaries, extending from the poor mechanic to the prosperous man, that the very prosperity of the nation depends upon its safety and proper administration.

The life insurance companies, having assumed this trusteeship, should be held to strict accountability and required to exhibit the same care and caution in investments, the same scrupulous honesty of administration that is exacted of other fiduciaries. Besides securing safety and honesty in the administration of the funds of life insurance companies, there is another feature of the question that we cannot afford to ignore. About $5,000,000 each year is paid in premiums by the people of this State to life insurance companies located outside of Virginia. Only a small part of this amount returns annually to us in the shape of payment on policies or investments within our State. The withdrawal of this large sum of money, most of it to be invested elsewhere, cannot fail to be depressing to our material and business prosperity. Most of this goes to the reserve funds of the insurance companies.

We should by law require the life insurance companies doing business in this State to invest a part of their reserve funds in safe Virginia securities, loans, mortgages or properties, approximating as near as possible the amount required to the amount of Virginia premiums that go into the reserve funds. This, besides being beneficial to the State, would give additional security to Virginia policyholders. The companies cannot complain because investments can be found in Virginia as safe and yielding as large returns as can be found elsewhere. If all the States should adopt legislation of this character it would prevent the great accumulation of the funds of insurance companies in the large cities to be used in stock jobbing schemes and for speculative purposes. It would distribute these funds all over the country in safe, permanent investments to the benefit of business and the better security of the policyholders.

Miscellany.

The Life Insurance Companies Enlighten Insurance Commissioner Folk.

The Insurance Commissioner of Tennessee recently addressed a series of questions to presidents of life insurance companies doing business in that State, the substance of which was—whether their companies had contributed to political campaign funds dur-

ing the past ten years, and whether they had made any gift, donation or contribution of any kind whatsoever to any person, association or organization? Particulars were demanded under oath in each case.

Replies more or less full were received from all the companies —although not always sworn to—except the New York Life, which, being under examination by the department, was not called upon for particulars. Mr. Morton of the Equitable promised a reply later, but it has not yet been received.

The following companies reported that they had never made political campaign contributions: American Central Life, Chicago Life, Fidelity Mutual of Philadelphia, Hartford Life, Manhattan, Massachusetts Mutual, Michigan Mutual, Missouri State Life, National Life of Vermont, Phœnix Mutual, Reliance Life, State Life of Indianapolis, State Mutual Life of Worcester, Security Mutual of Binghamton, Security Trust and Life, Travelers, Volunteer State, Washington Life.

The following companies admitted the payment of contributions to political funds:

Ætna Life, $5,000 in each campaign of 1896, 1900 and 1904.

Germania Life, $1,500 in four years to the currency reform organization.

Mutual Life, to the National Republican Campaign Committee, $15,000 in 1896, $35,000 in 1900, $40,000 in 1904; also $2,500 in 1904 to the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee.

Penn Mutual Life (under the old management in 1896), $10,000 to the Republican Campaign Fund.

Provident Savings Life, $650 in 1903 and 1904 to national campaign purposes.

Prudential, $6,000 in 1896, $10,000 in 1900 and $10,000 in 1904 to the Republican Campaign Fund.

The Home Life of New York replied that it had given $1,000 toward the distribution of gold standard literature.

Companies reported as follows on the question whether they had made any gift, donation or contribution of any kind whatsoever to any person, association or organization:

Citizens Life of Kentucky spent $9 on flowers sent to the funeral of the second vice president's mother.

Columbian National donated $250 to the widow of Vice President Woodbridge.

Franklin of Illinois, $50 to yellow fever sufferers.

Germania Life, $1,933 in charities in the past ten years; $500 of this was paid to the Slocum steamer disaster fund.

Home Life, $1,000 paid in 1900 to the Galveston flood sufferers.

Massachusetts Mutual Life, $995.03 to legitimate legislative expenses in seven years.

Metropolitan Life reported that it had been in the habit of contributing out of its stockholders' funds to alleviate suffering of its industrial policyholders and their families by strikes, epidemics, etc. None of these payments affected participating policyholders.

Mutual Benefit Life, $2,500 to Galveston flood sufferers. There had been spent in the past ten years for legitimate legislative expenses $651.58.

Mutual Life at various times contributed to sufferers by the Galveston flood, Chicago and Portland fires, and yellow fever epidemics; $500 was paid in 1899 toward the expenses of the annual meeting of the National Convention of Insurance Commissioners; $5,000 was paid to Lawyer W. A. Fricke for watching insurance legislation.

National of the U. S. A. paid $115 to its baseball team and $250 toward the expenses of passing the new city charter of Chicago.

Northwestern Mutual Life reported a long list of payments for various regular expenses, among them $200 yearly for legislative information from THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER. It made no contribution to political funds.

Pacific Mutual Life $1,500 to yellow fever fund.

Penn Mutual Life $550 in the past ten years to the Philadelphia militia. Other small contributions were made to the Philadelphia Exposition, the Jacksonville fire and the yellow fever fund. One thousand dollars was paid to the Home for Inebriates. In all $6,350 was paid in this way in ten years.

Provident Savings Life $1,000 to Galveston flood sufferers.

Prudential made occasional small gifts to charities like the fresh air fund, to sufferers by various floods and in pensions to employees.

Travelers paid legitimate legislative expenses and charged them to that department in the company's accounts.

United States Life, various small sums to charities, in all about $500 in ten years; $30 was paid for legislative expenses.

Union Central Life paid $500 to a fund to educate the public in the advantages of life insurance; $50 to the Kansas State school fund, as required by law of that State, and the expenses of Dr. Fricke in attending upon the Legislature of Wisconsin in behalf of proper legislation for the policyholders of the company.

The Chicago Insurance Convention.

The convention of governors and attorneys general and their representatives and State insurance department commissioners called by Insurance Commissioner Drake, of the District of Columbia, with the approval of President Roosevelt, to consider life insurance affairs in the United States, and make recommendations thereon, began its sessions at the Palmer House, Chicago, on Thursday, February 1. About 100 persons were present, including public officials, delegates from the National Life Underwriters' Association and other representatives of life insurance interests.

OPENING ADDRESS BY CHAIRMAN DRAKE.

Superintendent Drake, of the District of Columbia, opened the convention with the following remarks:

Gentlemen, it seems to have fallen to my lot to call this convention to order, and to relate briefly and very generally its cause and purpose.

The exposure of some of the methods of some of the life insurance companies, by the committee of the Legislature of the State of New York, which so clearly demonstrated the urgent necessity for better insurance laws throughout the country, was the principal reason for calling together the governors, attorneys general, insurance commissioners and others of so many States and Territories. The meeting, however, is the direct result of correspondence begun last November by Governor Johnson, of Minnesota, with the President of the United States, and a visit of Insurance Commissioner O'Brien, of the same State, to the White House, immediately after which I was directed by the President and the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to meet Commissioner O'Brien at an early date and confer with the New York Legislative Investigating Committee and their counsel, Messrs. James McKeen and Charles E. Hughes, on the subject of insurance legislation.

It was felt that, in the general prevailing excitement and deep feeling of unrest among policyholders and the public in general, there was great danger that the various legislatures, about to convene, might adopt drastic measures, which would, and especially by reason of their differences in different localities, be not only unreasonably burdensome and harmful to insurance companies, but also injurious to policyholders. New York city was selected as the place of meeting; fortunately, too, because we found assembled there the following insurance commissioners, who were attending to official business in that city, and with whom we freely consulted, viz., Henry R. Prewitt, of Kentucky; Zeno M. Host, of Wisconsin, and James L. Pierce, deputy, of Nebraska.

We, as a body, conferred, in executive session, with the Armstrong Committee and their counsel, all of whom heartily approved of the adoption of uniform insurance laws as the best solution of the problem. We then adjourned to Washington, where the other members of the executive committee and the committee on laws and legislation of the National Convention of Insurance Commissioners was called to join us, the following members of the said committee responding, viz., W. Q. Cole, of Mississippi; B. F. Carroll, of Iowa; Reau

E. Folk, of Tennessee, and Frank H. Hardison, deputy, of Massachusetts. Several conferences with the President and Hon. Henry B. F. Macfarland, president of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, and by ourselves were held.

After full consideration the following plan was unanimously agreed upon, and which has the approval of the President and the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

A bill to be introduced and urged in Congress, which shall be a code for the regulation of insurance in the District of Columbia, but which, with necessary changes in form to make it applicable, may be enacted by the States and Territories, thus making a uniform regulation of insurance, at once protective of policyholders and fair and just to companies, and avoiding the vexations and costly burden incident to differing and often conflicting local legislation, the increased expense of which must be paid by policyholders.

It is hoped, also, that such a bill may be framed as, when enacted, will render impossible such gross extravagance and misuse of trust funds as have been shown to exist under present conditions, all of which is paid for by an unnecessarily large cost of insurance.

It is believed that such a bill, if framed with due care and presented with the sanction of such a convention as this, will be enacted by Congress without substantial amendment, and that like action will probably follow in most, and, ultimately, in substantially all the States and Territories. "'Tis a consummation devoutly to be wished."

I desire to state that the insurance commissioners, comprising the executive committee, the committee on laws and legislation and the committee on annual statement blanks, met again with the Armstrong Committee on the 19th and 20th of January for advisory purposes. The meeting was mutually beneficial, and it is to be hoped that the gist of the results of that conference will be such as may be embodied in the uniform bill that is to be prepared here.

This meeting is considered, gentlemen, one of the most important that has ever taken place in the interests of insurance. The occasion is a momentous one, and the eyes of the entire nation are centred upon us. Let us, therefore, be exceedingly careful in the preparation of the proposed uniform bill, to administer justice and fairness to the companies and at the same time erect substantial, enduring safeguards for the innocent, unsuspecting policyholders and the credulous insuring public.

While the President or his views may not, with propriety, be directly represented here, he may, with propriety, express his appreciation of and hearty concurrence with your efforts in the line indicated, and this he has commissioned me to do, with his best wishes for your success.

The report of the committee on permanent organization was presented by A. I. Vorys, of Ohio, naming Governor John A. Johnson, of Minnesota, as chairman, and Frederick H. Nash, of Massachusetts, as secretary. The report was adopted unanimously. Governor Johnson, in taking the chair, spoke briefly, expressing the hope that the action of the convention might have the effect of restoring confidence in relation to insurance matters through the country. "If we shall place one wise law upon the statute books of this Union, one wise law that will insure to the common good," he said, "this meeting will not have been held in vain."

The report of the same committee recommended that one vote be awarded to each State represented by a governor, attorney general and insurance commissioner, or either.

The committee also recommended that a committee of fifteen be appointed by the chairman of the convention to formulate a bill, or bills, with a view to the establishment of a uniform system of statutory regulation of legal reserve life insurance in the several States; this committee to report at an adjourned meeting of the present convention at a time and place to be hereafter determined.

The committee was instructed to give particular consideration to the following subjects: Deferred dividends, representative form of government in mutual companies, publicity, limitation of age in life insurance, investments, limitations of expenses to loading and restrictions on cost of new business, limitation of amount of business and assets, method of determining loading, non-forfeiture provisions, investments in individual States of a percentage of the reserve on the business in such States, reports in annual statements of dividends paid, credited or provisionally credited under different forms of policies, at the several ages of entry, and several years in force.

The recommendations of the committee on permanent organization were adopted.

ADDRESS OF ATTORNEY GENERAL MAYER, OF NEW YORK.

On invitation and by special rule or order of business the assemblage listened to an address from the Attorney General of New York, Julius M. Mayer.

In part Mr. Mayer said:

Since the controversies in the Equitable Life Assurance Society first became public, I have received letters from all over this country and from abroad, written by men in almost every walk in life.

The inquiries have made it apparent to me that there is not a clear conception of the powers and duties of the Attorney General of New York.

In the first place the Attorney General of New York is not charged with the prosecution of criminal offenses, excepting in certain specified instances, not including any matters here under discussion.

In New York the initial duty of prosecuting crimes rests upon the district attorney. The Attorney General may bring an action in the name of the people under circumstances to be hereinafter referred to.

After the Frick and Hendricks reports were published, it seemed to me that it was my duty to bring an action against the directors of the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

At that time no action had been begun by the corporation looking to the accomplishment of the same result.

Under our law a corporation or its directors can bring any action to recover wasted funds which the Attorney General can bring. The Attorney General has additional authority to bring an action for the suspension or removal from office of a director or officer who has abused his trust, or has been guilty of such acts as the courts would regard as misconduct.

The duty of bringing appropriate actions rests primarily upon the officers and directors of the corporation. Where wrong has been done, they should not be permitted to escape the responsibility of rectifying that wrong, nor should they seek to shift the burden from themselves to the State.

Since the beginning of the action against the Equitable Life Assurance Society, the testimony before the Armstrong committee has disclosed various acts of officials of other companies which likewise require redress and remedy.

It is well known that two of the great companies have appointed self investigating committees. It must be manifest to these gentlemen that they owe a profound duty to the policyholders and the public. Wherever funds have been wrongfully diverted, it is their duty to take steps to recover these funds.

If they fail to do so, they will be placing themselves in a position of approving conduct which has been condemned by every conservative citizen.

In my view, therefore, the present management of these companies should discharge the responsibilities which belong to them to recover wasted funds, and for that purpose should bring such actions as may be legally maintainable.

I realize that it might be picturesque and pleasing to some for the Attorney General to bring a lawsuit daily in the name of the people, but what we all desire is results, and such a course is not the most expeditious way to that end.

In the litigation with the directors of the Equitable Life Assurance Society difficult, interesting and, in some respects, novel questions have arisen. Some of the questions presented in that case would necessarily be presented in any case brought by the people, and however anxious we all may be for a speedy solution of these questions and problems we must not forget that litigations can be conducted only in accordance with the laws of the State in which they are brought.

So what I am anxious to emphasize is that the present officers and directors of insurance companies must realize that the public looks to them for appropriate action in relation to the restoration of funds, and for such changes in personnel or methods of management as it may be practicable to bring about.

Not only can the corporation or its officers and managers commence action, as I have stated, but an action may be maintained

against one or more directors, managers or other officers of the corporation by any trustee, director, manager or other officer.

So not only is there responsibility resting upon the corporation itself, and upon its directors as a body, but a responsibility rests upon each and every director individually, for he has the power to do whatever may be left undone by his associates.

The Attorney General has power to bring a similar action, if, as the statute provides, "in his opinion the public interests require that an action should be brought."

If, however, the directors or officers of life insurance companies fail to do their duty, then you may be assured that the State will institute any and all proceedings which it has the authority to bring, and which may be necessary for the purpose of restoring funds wrongfully expended.

From what I have said I am not to be understood as expressing any opinion as to what may be the course of the gentlemen connected with the present management of the various companies.

These boards of directors contain men of high standing, and it is fair to assume that they are alive to their responsibilities, and I shall be disappointed if their conduct is not such as to commend itself.

Waste has occurred in the past because some men have committed wrongs and have used their places of trust as a means for personal profit. Many of the men connected with insurance corporations have neglected their duties, and have performed them in only a perfunctory way. Their fault has been due to the fact that busy men in this country are likely to be too busy and to undertake many duties.

These men are not for that reason to be held any the less responsible legally, but there is a moral distinction in the public mind between the man who knowingly commits a wrong and the man who, depending upon others, neglects or omits to perform his duty in whole or in part.

Perhaps the most important result to follow this situation will be the holding to stricter responsibility of any person who undertakes the solemn obligation of looking after other people's money. Not so many men will be in so many directorates, but those who undertake these burdens will more keenly realize their obligations.

I am quite sure that the present directors of the insurance companies realize this point of view, and that is one of the reasons which leads me to believe that they will see the necessity, as the expression goes, to do their own housekeeping.

And I may conclude by saying:

First—That I believe official action by other States should await the coming in of the Armstrong report.

Second—That the insurance corporations and their directors have the power to bring every action to recover wasted funds which the people of the State of New York, through the Attorney General, could bring.

Third—That such actions as may be necessary and proper should be brought by the directors and their responsibility should not be shifted.

Fourth—That if such course is not sincerely and thoroughly pursued the State may be depended upon to act in their place.

THE LIFE UNDERWRITERS DEMAND RECOGNITION.

A motion by Samuel B. Davis, Insurance Commissioner of Nevada, that a committee on credentials be appointed by the chair, brought out a demand from C. W. Scovel, of Pittsburgh, president of the National Association of Life Underwriters, for a voice in the affairs of the commission. Mr. Davis declared that he desired to limit the voting powers to the State insurance commissioners and attorneys general.

Mr. Scovel said that he was present by special invitation and possessed rights equal to those of such State officials as might be in the convention.

Some trouble had been anticipated on the question of representation, and a wave of subdued excitement came over the convention when this matter was broached. Chairman Johnson announced the committee on credentials, and that body went into executive session at once. A recess was taken pending the report of the committee, which was composed of the following: Z. M. Host, Insurance Commissioner of Wisconsin; Charles C. Gray, Insurance Commissioner of Rhode Island; H. R. Prewitt, Insurance Commissioner of Kentucky; B. F. Carroll, State Auditor of Iowa, and Attorney General C. N. Fritch, of North Dakota.

The committee reported after the recess giving each State a vote, as recommended by the committee on permanent organization, but while denying a vote to the representatives of the life underwriters, allowing them to participate in the discussions.

THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

The presiding officer appointed the following committee on resolutions: Gov. A. B. Cummins, of Iowa, chairman; Commissioners Folk, of Tennessee; Barry, of Michigan, and Host, of Wisconsin, and Deputy Commissioner Hardison, of Massachusetts.

DEFERRED DIVIDENDS.

Commissioner Folk, of Tennessee, offered a resolution providing that it be the sense of the convention that in all deferred dividend contracts now existing there shall be an annual accounting to each policyholder, and that further issue of deferred dividend contracts be prohibited. He regarded, he said, the deferred dividend system as being the root of the greater part of the evils and abuses brought to light in the life insurance system. The deferred dividend arrangement, he declared, constituted a gambling contract, which he considered opposed to public policy.

Commissioners Host, of Wisconsin, and Wolf, of California, spoke in favor of the resolution.

Vice President R. W. Weeks, of the New York Life insurance company, defended the deferred dividend system as "a reward for persistence."

Mr. S. Herbert Wolfe, of New York, consulting actuary, said: "The deferred dividend policy is the best contract, either from the standpoint of the policyholder or the company. There is no objection to the annual dividend policy from the company's viewpoint except the expense of frequent accounting. Where policyholders are left to choose there are ten deferred to one annual dividend policy."

Governor Cummins said: "So far as I am concerned, and so far as my influence will go, I shall not only attempt to secure enactments in our General Assembly that will insure annual distribution but will secure standard and uniform forms of insurance. I do not believe that there should be more than ten forms of contract permitted. An ideal situation would not permit any dividend. Insurance companies should not take from policyholders one penny more than is necessary to carry out the contract entered into. When we attempt to dissociate the legitimate from the investment companies, we shall have entered upon the right course. There should be no partnership between policyholders and companies."

On motion of Auditor Carroll, of Iowa, the entire program prepared for consideration by the convention was referred to the committee on resolutions, with instructions to them to report tomorrow. A general discussion of insurance matters occupied the convention until adjournment.

FRIDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

CHICAGO, February 2.—The convention turned its attention today to the subject of uniform legislation. A committee of fifteen was appointed to decide upon a report which is to be submitted to the convention later in the day. In addition to the fifteen active members of the committee, all the governors and members of the conference on uniform legislation were designated as members of an advisory committee.

A recess was taken by the convention until the committee of fifteen declared itself ready to report.

[This was all that was received to time of going to press Friday afternoon.]

Life Insurance Payments.

The following is the report of the life insurance companies doing business in the United States to THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER of the death claims and endowments paid by them during the month of December, 1905:

COMPANIES.	Death Claims.	Endowments.	Total Payments.
Ætna Life	$320,201	$204,854	$525,055
American Central, Ind	6,346	.....	6,346
Baltimore Life	17,266	2,450	19,716
Boston Mutual	9,623	.....	9,623
Central Life	.....	.....	.....
Citizens Life	.....	.....	.....
†Colonial Life	15,064	.....	15,064
Columbia Life	500	.....	500
*Columbian National Life	12,037	.....	12,037
Connecticut General Life	52,829	12,080	64,909
Connecticut Mutual Life	324,591	24,132	348,723
Des Moines Life	11,700	.....	11,700
Equitable Life, New York	.....	.....	.....
Equitable Life, Des Moines	6,211	500	6,711
Federal Life	5,440	.....	5,440
Fidelity Mutual	189,730	.....	189,730
Franklin Life	23,519	.....	23,519
Germania Life	218,521	245,060	463,581
†† Hartford Life	.....	.....	166,415
Home Life	80,184	59,028	139,212
Inter-State Life	2,819	.....	2,819
* John Hancock Mutual Life	401,241	8,040	409,281
Manhattan Life	113,344	21,107	134,451
Maryland Life	11,360	.....	11,360
Massachusetts Mutual Life	284,237	23,135	307,372
Meridian Life and Trust	1,276	.....	1,276
*Metropolitan Life	1,387,669	3,225	1,390,894
Michigan Mutual Life	49,694	44,199	93,893
Minnesota Mutual Life	10,634	.....	10,634
Mutual Benefit Life	443,543	121,257	564,800
Mutual Life	1,883,199	617,526	2,500,725
Mutual Reserve Life	258,750	.....	258,750
National Life U. S. A.	44,992	.....	44,992
National Life, Montpelier	140,677	45,824	186,501
Nederlands (U. S. Branch)	3,185	.....	3,185
New England Mutual Life	203,613	28,489	232,102
New York Life	2,072,039	402,270	2,474,309
Northwestern Mutual Life	676,802	160,397	837,199
Pacific Mutual Life	70,359	11,641	82,000
Penn Mutual Life	442,070	121,865	563,935
Phœnix Mutual Life	120,217	9,244	129,461
Provident Life and Trust	178,070	174,520	352,590
Provident Savings Life, New York	102,723	.....	102,723
† Prudential	1,016,056	10,404	1,026,460
Reliance Life	4,800	.....	4,800
Security Mutual Life	41,095	.....	41,095
Security Trust and Life	26,700	5,151	31,851
State Life	45,235	.....	45,235
State Mutual Life	144,186	2,351	146,537
Sun Life of Canada	142,325	55,159	197,484
Travelers	160,021	80,121	240,142
Union Central Life	156,367	65,694	222,061
Union Mutual Life	62,279	11,160	73,439
United States Life	103,309	15,634	118,943
Washington Life	97,728	49,113	146,841
Canada Life	.....	.....	.....
Totals	$12,196,376	$2,635,630	$14,998,421

* Partially industrial insurance. † Report includes both industrial and ordinary business. †† Report includes death claims and endowments.

Payments Since Organization.

The following table shows the total amount reported paid on death claims and endowments, from their organization to December 31, 1905, inclusive, by the life insurance companies whose monthly reports are printed in THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER:

Date of Organization.	COMPANIES.	Death Claims.	Endowments.	Total Payments.
1850	Ætna Life	$65,781,279	$31,125,593	$96,906,872
1899	American Central, Ind	193,696	.....	193,696
1898	Baltimore Life	2,965,800	61,768	3,027,568
1899	Boston Mutual Life	487,195	.....	487,195
1896	Central Life	77,105	.....	77,105
1904	Citizens Life	14,000	.....	14,000
1898	† Colonial Life	420,645	.....	420,645
1903	Columbia Life	10,568	.....	10,568
1902	* Columbian National Life	245,562	.....	245,562
1865	Connecticut General Life	3,684,224	1,275,692	4,959,916
1846	Connecticut Mutual Life	127,725,454	16,714,830	144,440,284
1885	Des Moines Life	1,905,980	.....	1,905,980
1859	Equitable Life, New York	266,531,658	33,301,555	299,833,213
1867	Equitable Life, Des Moines	1,331,820	302,594	1,634,414
1900	Federal Life	113,505	.....	113,505
1879	Fidelity Mutual	12,155,211	.....	12,155,211
1884	Franklin Life	2,132,491	.....	2,132,491
1860	Germania Life	30,686,105	12,043,968	42,730,073
1867	†† Hartford Life	.....	.....	29,014,920
1860	Home Life	15,242,029	3,994,787	19,236,816
1897	Inter-State Life	162,003	.....	162,003
1862	* John Hancock Mutual Life	38,937,692	2,193,222	41,130,914
1850	Manhattan Life	34,373,340	5,816,704	40,190,044
1864	Maryland Life	3,021,921	256,364	3,278,285
1851	Massachusetts Mutual Life	29,580,247	4,836,531	34,416,778
1898	Meridian Life and Trust	40,821	.....	40,821
1867	* Metropolitan Life	150,426,584	909,140	151,335,724
1867	Michigan Mutual Life	6,830,403	3,300,393	10,130,796
1901	Minnesota Mutual Life	3,883,786	.....	3,883,786
1845	Mutual Benefit Life	114,414,172	13,927,007	128,341,179
1843	Mutual Life, New York	331,391,242	72,572,221	403,963,463
1881	Mutual Reserve Life	59,912,866	.....	59,912,866
1868	National Life U. S. A.	7,814,854	351,489	8,166,343
1850	National Life, Montpelier	15,281,794	2,757,703	18,039,497
1893	Nederlands Life (U. S. Branch)	1,438,269	1,000	1,439,269
1844	New England Mutual Life	48,790,063	9,644,302	58,434,365
1845	New York Life	2,072,039	402,270	2,474,309
1857	Northwestern Mutual Life	86,106,107	21,797,380	107,903,487
1868	Pacific Mutual Life	6,513,236	1,293,912	7,807,148
1847	Penn Mutual Life	42,275,726	8,655,885	50,931,611
1851	Phœnix Mutual Life	26,490,631	5,055,902	31,546,533
1865	Provident Life and Trust	22,089,195	15,305,857	37,395,052
1878	Provident Savings Life, New York	20,602,068	21,955	20,624,023
1876	† Prudential	94,873,973	262,213	95,136,186
1903	Reliance Life	47,798	.....	47,798
1887	Security Mutual Life	3,507,637	.....	3,507,637
1895	Security Trust and Life	2,719,137	5,151	2,724,288
1894	State Life	1,613,854	.....	1,613,854
1845	State Mutual Life	14,132,592	3,043,585	17,176,177
1871	Sun Life of Canada	7,601,218	1,709,179	9,310,397
1866	Travelers	18,833,909	4,474,490	23,308,399
1867	Union Central Life	15,610,469	4,148,258	19,758,727
1849	Union Mutual Life	18,968,697	6,113,401	25,082,098
1850	United States Life	17,403,808	2,465,317	19,869,125
1850	Washington Life	21,860,764	9,410,769	31,271,533
1847	Canada Life	18,580,489	2,460,402	21,040,891
	Totals	$1,819,907,731	$302,012,789	$2,150,935,440

* Partially industrial insurance. † Report includes both industrial and ordinary business. †† Report includes death claims and endowments.

Overhead Writing and Non-Resident Brokers.

The following letters have been addressed by the president, chairman of the executive committee and secretary of the National Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents to the presidents of agency fire insurance companies doing business in the United States:

OVERHEAD WRITING.

DEAR SIR—Since the polling of the companies in 1898 upon the subject of overhead writing a number of new companies have been organized, and there have been changes in the management of some of those who then expressed themselves on the question. Because of these new companies and the changes in the managerial field, this association thinks it wise to secure and publish a new list of those companies who will not practice overhead writing, and the joint conference committee of the companies and agents has approved the proposition.

This association will, therefore, publish an alphabetical list of companies which advise the undersigned that they will not practice overhead writing, either in the form of insurance written for property owners direct, or through agents, or in the form of reinsurance. It is understood that the writing of steam railroad schedules is not classed as overhead writing by this association. We sincerely hope that you will wish the name of your company to appear on this list, and that you will authorize us to publish it there.

We are addressing this to you, supposing that you control this matter for your company throughout the United States. If we are in error on this point, please advise us what other representatives of your company should be addressed upon this subject.

This letter is sent to companies whose names appeared upon the original list, not because of any doubt of their attitude in the matter, but because we do not wish to add any company to the new list without its manager's definite approval. We shall be greatly obliged if you can give this matter your early consideration.

Please address reply to office of the secretary, 159 Devonshire street, Boston, Mass.

NON-RESIDENT BROKERS.

DEAR SIR—There exist conditions in the agency field today which concern both companies and agents and toward which

(*Continued on page* 91.)

Life Insurance Business in California in 1905.

(Compiled from Returns Made to the Coast Review.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies Issued. Premium.	Policies Re-newed. Premium.	Policies in Force December 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force December 31, 1905. Amount.	Losses Paid.
Ætna Life	784	$1,429,050	$60,284	$200,864	3,882	$7,233,238	$65,983
Bankers, Iowa	981	1,962,000	2,944	101,453	5,285	10,570,000	36,000
Columbian	78	548,000	21,361	366	73	513,000	------
Conn. Mutual	161	316,000	7,058	162,531	2,931	6,151,736	88,433
Conservative	8,342	6,885,254	306,008	341,694	11,678	14,958,228	70,107
Continental	236	1,016,000	25,323	------	240	1,026,000	5,000
Des Moines	236	951,600	26,446	6,623	219	860,100	4,500
Equitable	1,260	3,148,930	121,164	1,176,164	13,218	34,393,582	410,705
Fidelity M.	199	555,545	18,424	108,910	1,721	4,070,973	50,398
Germania	188	365,407	17,057	147,614	2,044	4,513,701	90,474
Home	228	443,015	16,393	121,871	1,605	3,370,289	40,666
Life Assn. Am.	2	3,500	83	------	1	1,000	------
Los Angeles	445	622,000	9,273	------	437	612,000	------
Manhattan	128	316,000	9,743	67,505	941	2,174,951	65,447
Mass. Mutual	170	327,750	11,697	62,440	1,038	2,066,350	9,793
*Metropolitan	3,541	2,703,045	78,457	171,922	6,701	5,736,521	32,489
Minn. Mut.	222	974,250	43,630	28,819	504	1,873,992	11,708
Mutual Benefit	573	1,478,550	63,401	338,089	3,623	10,431,064	111,251
Mutual, N. Y.	1,264	2,800,535	118,065	1,232,742	15,764	40,262,360	759,077
National, Vt.	286	676,830	27,630	130,206	1,976	1,302,955	35,644
National U. S. A.	90	199,500	7,516	2,295	91	195,500	144
N. Eng. Mutual	472	872,026	41,130	300,714	4,980	9,459,393	176,382
New York	3,344	6,740,291	276,619	1,706,482	21,446	47,657,189	563,193
N'western Mut.	1,303	3,020,300	109,797	532,240	9,294	21,254,437	218,961
Pacific Mutual	4,246	4,386,836	189,498	525,078	10,485	17,074,788	207,437
Penn Mutual	650	1,601,830	75,774	500,237	5,681	14,698,413	110,742
Phœnix Mutual	223	383,000	15,303	58,603	1,048	1,674,750	11,124
Provident Sav.	70	206,554	9,977	72,188	752	1,255,860	24,000
Provident L. & T	606	1,129,665	39,437	66,670	1,358	2,555,742	36,140
Prudential	401	735,912	26,222	130,986	1,874	3,535,423	19,059
Security, N. Y.	106	258,258	12,450	4,765	142	336,029	10,175
Security T. & L.	45	132,000	10,033	23,284	255	1,003,173	------
State	330	1,276,345	35,878	60,268	614	2,666,545	20,000
Travelers	295	575,797	23,533	86,381	1,127	2,370,595	19,883
Union Central	440	1,406,345	36,828	116,903	1,534	4,070,243	42,961
Union Mutual	722	949,132	41,582	157,123	3,643	5,312,711	76,797
Washington	63	132,800	5,926	62,968	870	1,627,895	11,818
Totals, 1905	32,730	51,529,852	1,941,944	8,806,998	139075	288,870,726	3,436,491
1904	38,542	59,142,784	2,319,663	7,919,512	129946	274,704,286	3,172,815
1903	31,666	55,439,540	2,258,994	6,653,647	107815	239,838,747	2,901,732
1902	21,283	41,508,991	1,868,163	5,778,122	83,976	200,836,670	3,086,226
1901	15,251	32,950,280	1,362,902	4,879,136	71,800	176,271,625	2,975,897
1900	14,087	29,770,386	1,250,618	4,432,794	61,000	157,035,158	2,430,649
1899	10,996	24,819,675	1,032,667	3,897,556	52,775	132,064,388	2,437,543
1898	9,443	20,643,675	863,161	2,628,873	47,368	126,529,541	2,471,970

* Ordinary business only. The industrial department of the Metropolitan Life wrote $8,480,949 in California in 1905, and had $22,781,076 in force at the close of the year.

Fire Insurance Business in California in 1905.

(Compiled from Returns Made to the Coast Review.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiuns Received.	Losses Paid.	Per Cent. Losses to Pre'ms.
Companies of California.				
California	$3,418,728	$46,268	$6,288	13.6
Fireman's Fund	27,542,577	495,184	208,198	42.2
Home Fire and Marine	11,500,785	215,734	110,476	51.2
Pacific Underwriters	5,550,764	88,669	39,613	44.6
Totals	$48,012,854	$845,855	$364,575	43.1
Companies of Other States.				
Ætna	$10,640,316	$165,556	$60,457	36.5
Agricultural	2,640,783	43,392	14,848	34.2
Alliance	2,521,192	33,831	12,178	36.0
American, Boston	3,453,829	56,242	23,667	42.1
American Fire, Philadelphia	5,545,375	100,508	39.177	39.0
American, Newark	3,480,395	53,084	14,566	27.4
American Central	4,777,036	74,380	28,965	38.9
Atlanta-Birmingham	906,095	12,302	293	02.4
Austin Fire	3,895,749	66,895	6,431	09.6
Assurance Co. of America	174,299	2,056	140	6.8
British Amercan	478,240	7,872	2,256	29.0
Caledonian-American	1,270,621	21,653	12,572	58.0
Calumet, Chicago	2,195,914	32,184	4,392	13.6
Citizens, St. Louis	3,689,221	58,079	21,021	36.2
Colonial Fire Underwriters	3,090,297	52,477	25,780	49.1
Commercial Union Fire	712,458	10,668	2,697	25.3
Concordia Fire	1,394,719	22,341	2,686	12.0
Connecticut Fire	9,144,905	149,444	62,029	41.5
Continental	16,399,727	223,697	77,333	34.5
Delaware	2,108,891	33,656	11,703	34.7
Dutchess	4,053,143	70,439	35,890	50.9
Eagle Fire	1,677,877	25,840	807	03.1
Equitable F. & M.	1,720,415	32,820	15,576	47.5
Fire Association	4,892,419	78,506	30,677	39.7
Franklin Fire	4,693,716	77,061	48,618	63.1
German-American	11,603,463	187,721	72,313	38.5
Germania Fire	9,198,897	124,117	52,730	42.5
German Alliance	3,205,041	50,226	12,934	25.7
German, Freeport	15,455,788	190,534	69,877	36.6
German Fire, Peoria	2,842,882	46,901	8,331	17.7
German National, Chicago	5,477,935	68,406	29,772	43.5
Girard Fire and Marine	4,827,522	78,827	25,940	32.9
Glens Falls	5,255,027	81,665	31,280	38.3
Globe and Rutgers	2,729,731	43,513	9,181	21.1
Hanover Fire	4,004,843	64,755	25,966	40.1
Hartford Fire	18,620,634	295,172	103,131	34.9
Home, New York	17,452,305	289,329	106,911	36.9
Indemnity Fire	1,168,152	18,379	9,949	54.1
Ins. Co. of North America	10,675,273	169,081	64,928	38.4
Mercantile Fire and Marine	2,681,851	39,119	13,952	35.7
Michigan Fire and Marine	1,607,715	30,197	12,609	41.7
Milwaukee Mechanics	11,791,896	155,872	67,577	43.3
Nassau Fire	1,553,173	27,851	7,140	25.6
National Fire, Hartford	6,393,202	114,971	62,360	54.2
National Union	5,473,974	73,047	22,966	31.4
New Hampshire Fire	2,540,213	39,644	15,226	38.4
New York Underwriters	11,809,843	188,536	66,843	35.4
New York Fire	1,341,449	22,798	5,617	24.6
Niagara Fire	5,810,397	95,579	41,714	43.6
Northwestern National	7,203,358	90,155	29,382	32.5
Northwestern F. & M.	354,525	6,861	------	----
North German Fire	2,018,559	29,793	11,784	39.5
North River	2,129,704	36,501	7,757	21.2
Orient	2,710,285	37,552	13,772	36.7
Pelican	1,297,961	16,835	6,360	37.8
Pennsylvania Fire	9,333,475	160,878	74,961	46.6
Phenix, Brooklyn	10,758,912	159,531	39,893	25.0
Phœnix, Hartford	7,708,009	122,747	51,011	41.5
Philadelphia Underwriters	2,244,521	36,974	8,934	24.2
Providence-Washington	3,055,522	50,781	20,627	40.6
Queen	7,238,635	121,543	57,982	47.7
Queen City, Sioux City	596,310	10,735	3,859	35.9
Rochester German	1,843,481	34,790	15,032	43.2
Security, New Haven	1,426,022	20,131	326	01.6
Security Fire, Baltimore	1,268,621	18,612	1,393	07.5
Springfield Fire and Marine	5,784,503	104,243	37,889	36.3
Spring Garden	1,939,130	25,209	6,806	27.0
St. Paul Fire and Marine	4,634,504	71,403	27,958	39.1
Teutonia, New Orleans	945,552	14.785	3,951	26.7
Traders	9,394,049	145,699	56,045	38.5
Union, Philadelphia	1,151,369	17,176	6,929	40.3
United Firemen's	1,511,072	22,655	7,596	33.5
Victoria Fire	384,684	5,156	1,550	30.0
Westchester Fire	4,597,718	69,648	21,731	31.2
Williamsburgh City Fire	5,143,810	76,647	30,814	40.2
Totals	$355,753,129	$5,706,029	$2,109,355	36.9
Foreign Companies.				
Aachen and Munich Fire	$7,976,790	$130,199	$47,745	36.7
Alliance	6,981,753	104,782	52,766	50.4
Atlas	8,384,242	126,434	29,627	23.4
Austrian Phœnix	4,015,185	64,273	15,184	23.6
British America	3,824,182	67,776	21,469	31.7
Caledonian	7,928,037	145,858	53,002	36.3
Commercial Union	9,625,600	155,190	47,132	30.4
Hamburg-Bremen	7,223,815	111,690	45,256	40.5
Law Union and Crown	4,093,553	63,589	26,259	41.3
Liv. and London and Globe	18,518,106	283,133	87,056	30.7
London Assurance	12,212,792	185,041	73,728	39.9
London and Lancashire Fire	16,116,406	234,940	104,386	44.4
Manchester	1,850,091	28,831	5,919	20.5
New Zealand	5,686,885	90,045	28,038	31.1
North British and Mercantile	9,816,061	147,961	43,990	29.7
North German Fire	7,866,136	109,491	42,025	38.4
Northern	8,605,834	131,391	58,810	44.8
Norwich Union Fire	7,016,144	124,134	57,456	46.3
Palatine	6,070,861	93,961	18,236	19.4
Phœnix	11,580,249	148,208	49,495	33.4
Prussian National	6,586,434	97,069	48,704	50.2
Rhine and Moselle	7,366,416	106,418	26,785	25.1
Royal	16,674,013	281,198	114,540	40.7
Royal Exchange	9,910,244	150,363	60,892	40.5
Scotch Underwriters	620,023	7,827	5,327	68.1
Scottish Union and National	5,289,531	81,229	29,655	36.5
State Fire	2,874,312	42,331	14,741	34.8
Sun Insurance Office	8,699,017	152,115	66,074	43.4
Svea Fire	6,639,302	122,418	56,931	46.5
Transatlantic Fire,	10,472,449	150,256	47,989	32.0
Union, London	6,809,089	105,930	40,367	38.1
Western, Toronto	7,199,176	103,115	57,988	56.2
Totals	$254,532,728	$3,777,677	$1,410,946	37.3
Grand totals, 1905	$658,268,711	$10,328,591	$3,884,876	37.6
Grand totals, 1904	$683,729,176	$10,163,440	$3,836,126	27.7
" " 1903	524,551,603	8,292,803	4,360,921	52.5
" " 1902	482,908,036	7,360,222	2,686,087	36.7
" " 1901	530,614,567	7,669,882	2,394,541	31.2
" " 1900	389,177,568	5,795,503	2,430,241	42.7
" " 1899	380,501,771	5,612,697	2,923,999	52.1
" " 1898	452,645,344	6,651,945	3,562,703	53.5
" " 1897	325,296,808	4.756,669	2,619,417	55.1
" " 1896	335,098,638	3,802,197	2,589,517	68.1
" " 1895	359,142,069	4,704,584	2,850,672	60.6
" " 1894	377,836,494	6,337,060	2,815,670	44.4
" " 1893	388,435,963	6,782,158	2,668,721	39.3
" " 1892	398,623,480	7,007,460	2,727,908	38.9
" " 1891	378,529,165	6,669,998	2,408,156	37.1
" " 1890	368,699,661	6,304,813	2,755,288	43.7
" " 1889	352,290,603	6,160,736	2,573,250	41.7

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.	Per Cent. Losses to Premiums.
Grand Totals. 1888	352,831,786	6,097,041	3,048,030	50.0
" " 1887	326,711,137	5,595,315	2,108,262	35.4
" " 1886	308,521,499	5,185,772	2,654,371	51.2
" " 1885	282,256,308	4,541,268	2,033,215	44.7
" " 1884	295,925,982	4,484,768	1,279,489	28.5
" " 1883	278,429,534	4,209,697	1,668,836	39.6
" " 1882	268,596,247	4,038,581	1,612,968	39.6
" " 1881	262,687,236	3,821,627	1,281,026	33.5
" " 1880	252,179,530	3,620,267	1,175,671	32.5

Returns of Fire Insurance Business in the United States December 31, 1905.

Companies.	Admitted Assets.	Net Surplus.	Premiums Written, Fire.	Losses Paid, Fire.
Ætna, Hartford	$16,815,296	$6,862,984	$5,715,759	$2,733,621
Agricultural, Watertown	2,960,364	857,261	1,344,829	604,041
Albany	677,978	252,393	222,205	103,109
American, Newark	6,005,357	2,430,459	2,288,968	952,987
American Fire, Phila	2,977,859	266,616	------	------
American Central, St. Louis	4,191,809	1,431,518	2,022,028	990,103
Assur. Co. America	1,023,514	228,988	446,260	240,785
Boston	4,427,672	2,073,339	711,560	303,769
Buffalo Commercial	558,611	132,528	274,754	125,905
Buffalo German	2,413,100	1,631,720	555,785	225,966
Camden	1,661,769	516,340	873,776	347,173
Cologne Reinsurance	839,638	258,960	581,784	326,255
Calumet, Chicago	618,611	251,132	272,788	34,484
Colonial, New York	685,479	130,754	542,128	257,096
Columbia, Jersey City	540,206	40,874	106,457	66,722
Commercial Union, London	5,067,450	1,570,994	3,118,096	1,680,334
Commerce, Albany	512,015	149,211	213,451	102,384
Commercial Union, New York	559,256	130,124	251,023	112,168
Connecticut, Hartford	5,813,619	1,693,972	3,119,809	1,530,257
Continental, New York	16,384,501	8,424,225	5,993,169	2,663,444
City of New York	611,903	295,602	184,533	15,550
Commonwealth	1,442,975	504,977	376,068	148,835
Delaware, Dover	292,286	62,911	34,947	22,800
Delaware, Philadelphia	1,875,521	200,871	930,874	433,123
Detroit Fire & Marine	1,644,241	769,512	388,762	162,634
Dutchess	913,282	175,519	620,825	338,645
Eagle, New York	1,031,479	376,072	499,617	53,358
Empire City	475,639	88,345	329,686	130,121
Equitable Fire & Marine	1,301,246	238,501	804,578	444,926
Farmers', York, Pa	891,851	386,619	509,998	268,074
Franklin, Philadelphia	3,065,251	996,672	770,926	399,974
Georgia Home	1,027,958	252,215	476,091	225,925
Germania, New York	6,835,785	2,889,660	2,568,527	1,190,651
German-American	14,052,520	6,442,674	5,675,769	2,673,238
German Alliance	1,485,286	629,131	493,097	269,072
German, Peoria	908,031	160,598	610,288	237,090
Girard Fire and Marine	2,289,406	697,863	700,172	262,941
Glens Falls	4,515,081	2,594,064	1,433,779	624,839
Granite State	779,308	200,178	465,569	217,699
Hamilton, New York	223,795	4,327	109,780	66,756
Hartford Fire	18,061,926	5,124,820	12,936,113	6,208,551
Home, New York	21,239,052	8,720,501	8,415,824	4,100,088
Home F. & M., Cal	1,773,829	500,080	1,124,338	530,482
Hanover, New York	4,350,604	925,515	2,645,149	1,439,686
Humboldt	635,580	246,774	176,642	54,834
Indianapolis	566,115	98,632	348,437	164,124
Ins. Co. State Pa	618,710	84,170	225,363	90,600
Jefferson, Philadelphia	564,043	229,481	75,671	35,918
Lumbermen's	1,432,082	739,241	249,556	93,622
Lumber, New York	403,792	113,264	121,296	50,171
Mechanics, Philadelphia	1,094,297	252,826	326,950	172,110
Metropolitan, Chicago	311,368	21,375	135,118	54,359
Michigan Fire & Marine	1,087,219	282,687	452,056	230,237
Munich Reinsurance	4,097,095	1,289,220	3,413,629	2,049,052
Nassau, Brooklyn	856,906	251,457	561,878	229,384
National, Hartford	7,304,958	2,180,980	4,396,219	2,040,620
National Lumber	253,648	47,379	6,490	------
New Hampshire	4,069,140	1,237,647	1,739,745	873,472
New York	605,269	61,682	499,126	231,657
New Brunswick	298,303	44,522	64,638	35,838
Newark Fire	773,023	286,166	264,614	93,674
Niagara	4,732,286	1,810,455	2,709,979	1,297,231
N. Brit. & Mercantile, London	6,517,442	2,939,531	3,882,813	1,889,488
N. British & Mercantile, N. Y.	842,379	496,026	163,269	44,355
North River	1,796,459	440,894	1,412,580	522,943
Northwestern National	4,174,274	1,223,337	1,563,222	544,575
Pacific, New York	584,652	180,241	327,214	133,788
Phenix, Brooklyn	8,859,128	2,239,198	5,998,424	2,954,238
Prussian National	1,279,393	286,016	808,710	389,466
Palatine	2,348,209	1,069,663	1,415,367	664,573
Phœnix, Hartford	8,140,630	2,380,939	4,058,048	1,843,335
Reliance, Philadelphia	1,222,646	203,163	638,974	297,196
Rochester German	1,681,632	493,215	1,119,044	530,909
Rossia	1,949,372	733,244	2,122,642	685,269
Scottish Union and National	5,379,583	3,138,057	1,884,440	972,066
St. Paul Fire and Marine	4,565,988	1,315,877	3,202,098	1,646,178
Stuyvesant	595,450	152,111	416,806	178,810
Sun, London	3,139,168	873,275	2,396,977	1,132,125
Teutonia, Allegheny	642,425	227,318	222,361	110,724
Teutonia, New Orleans	900,624	136,024	664,406	360,940
Union, Philadelphia	718,167	156,676	117,305	168,044
Union, Buffalo	370,130	112,270	82,610	28,371
United Firemen's	1,890,337	233,891	528,854	231,118
Victoria	339,772	69,773	67,340	57,141
Western Reserve, Cleveland	381,671	141,331	59,716	10,338
Williamsburgh City, N. Y.	2,851,209	1,492,093	1,183,501	538,100

(*Continued from page 89.*)

we may properly invite your attention and ask your co-operation.

It is found that local agents and the companies they represent are frequently placed at an unfair disadvantage in competition with non-resident brokers who place a portion of the line with companies or their agents under proper conditions, but broker the balance in unauthorized or non-agency organizations under different rates and rules.

In this way, by the use of regular companies innocently induced to write the risk, many lines are being diverted from local channels, where they would naturally be controlled, to non-resident brokers whose competition, agents are deterred from meeting by their obligations to the companies they represent.

We are certain that no agency company would knowingly allow its policies to be used by non-resident brokers for the purpose described. In order, however, that the intentions of all companies in this respect may be properly recorded and appreciated by local agents, we ask an assurance from you that upon risks in the territory of your agents, offered by non-resident brokers, you will satisfy yourself that the whole insurance which they are placing is written or to be written under the rules and conditions to which the risk is subject locally.

This organization pledges itself to use its best endeavors to induce all local agents not to write policies for non-resident brokers unless satisfied that the whole insurance placed or to be placed complies with the rules and conditions to which the risk is subject locally. Believing that you will see the justice of our request and will favor us with an early reply, we are,

Please address reply to the office of the secretary, 159 Devonshire street, Boston, Mass.

The secretary of the association announced this week that the following companies have responded, putting themselves on record against overhead writing and the writing of insurance for non-resident brokers who do not write the balance of the line at the rates and rules which the risk is subject to locally: Ætna, Albany; Alliance, Pa.; American Central, American, N. J.; Assurance Company of America, Atlanta Home, Birmingham, Pa.; Boston, Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo German, Caledonian, Caledonian-American, Capital, N. H.; Century, Ia.; Columbia, Ohio; Continental, Cooper, Ohio; Equitable Fire and Marine, Federal, N. J.; Fire Association, Pa.; Fire Insurance Company County of Philadelphia; German-American, Baltimore; German Fire, W. Va.; German National, Chicago; Girard Fire and Marine, Home, N. Y.; Homestead Fire, Va.; Indemnity Fire, Insurance Company of North America, Law Union and Crown, London Assurance, Liverpool and London and Globe, Lumbermen's, Mechanics, Pa.; National-Standard, New Hampshire Fire, North British and Mercantile, North State, N. C.; Northern, N. Y.; Northwestern National, Norwich Union, Ohio German, Orient, Phenix, N. Y.; Pennsylvania Fire, Piedmont, N. C.; Providence-Washington, Prussian National, Royal Exchange, Royal (N. E. Dept.), Scottish Union and National, Shawnee, Kan.; Springfield Fire and Marine, Star Fire, Ky.; State Fire, Ia.; Union, England; United Firemens, Pa.; Union, Philadelphia, and Western, Pa.

Provident Life and Trust Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. **THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY** invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL STATEMENT

OF THE

PENN MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company of Philadelphia.

Net Assets, Jan. 1, 1905		$65,866,657.42

RECEIPTS DURING THE YEAR.

For Premiums and Annuities	$14,200,241.58	
For Interest, etc	3,626,195.06—	17,826,436.64
		$83,693,094.06

DISBURSEMENTS.

Claims by Death	$3,715,608.13	
Matured Endowments and Annuities	1,284,745.04	
Surrender Values	1,319,788.27	
*Premium Abatements	1,019,781.94	
TOTAL PAID POLICYHOLDERS	$7,339,923.38	
Instalment Payments	$114,408.00	
Pennsylvania and other State taxes	430,114.69	
Salaries, Medical Fees, Office and Legal Expenses	532,974.26	
Commissions to Agents and Rents	1,929,188.66	
Agency and other Expenses	124,069.74	
Advertising, Printing and Supplies	111,405.71	
Office Furniture, Maintenance of Properties, etc.	230,442.11—	10,812,526.55
NET ASSETS, JAN. 1, 1906		$72,880,567.51

* In addition to the above abatements the Company allotted to deferred distribution policies $850,688.73, making the total apportionment of surplus during 1905 $1,870,470.67.

ADDED TO RESERVE, $6,056,748.00.

ASSETS.

City Loans, Railroad and other Bonds (Market value, $31,524,458.57)	$31,030,111.37
Bank and other Stocks (Market value, $550,093.10)	475,957.19
Mortgages and Ground Rents, 1st Liens (Valuation, $68,943,855)	27,253,091.87
Premium Notes, secured by Policies, etc. (Reserve value, $1,718,300)	1,374,637.58
Policy Loans (Reserve value, $8,575,600)	6,860,482.00
Loans on Bonds, Stocks, etc. (Market value, $5,801,323.62)	2,997,130.05
Home Office, Boston Office and other Real Estate	2,568,507.12
Cash on Deposit and in Company's office	320,650.33
NET LEDGER ASSETS	$72,880,567.51
Net Deferred and Unreported Premiums	1,925,384.29
Interest Due and Accrued, etc	970,076.70
Market Value of Bonds and Stocks over cost	568,483.11
GROSS ASSETS, JANUARY 1, 1906	$76,344,511.61

LIABILITIES.

Reserve at 3, 3½ and 4 per cent. required by law		$65,444,158.00
Outstanding Policy Claims		338,861.74
Surplus on Unreported Policies, etc		480,122.28
Surplus Accumulated upon Deferred Distribution Policies	$5,004,235.58	
Surplus for all other Contingencies	5,077,134.01	
TOTAL SURPLUS		10,081,369.59
GROSS ASSETS, AS ABOVE		$76,344,511.61
NEW BUSINESS OF THE YEAR, 34,289 POLICIES		86,719,800.00
INSURANCE OUTSTANDING DECEMBER 31, 1905, 159,224 POLICIES FOR		$377,438,264.00

HARRY F. WEST, President.
GEORGE K. JOHNSON, Vice-President.
LINCOLN K. PASSMORE, 2d Vice-President.
WILLIAM H. KINGSLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
JESSE J. BARKER, Actuary.

56th ANNUAL STATEMENT

(CONDENSED)

Ætna Life Insurance Company

HARTFORD, CONN.

MORGAN G. BULKELEY, President.

THE LEADING INSURANCE COMPANY IN NEW ENGLAND, AND THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD WRITING LIFE, ACCIDENT, LIABILITY AND HEALTH INSURANCE.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$79,247,504.32
Premium Receipts in 1905	13,728,619.61
Interest and other Receipts in 1905	3,231,850.90
Total Receipts in 1905	16,960,470.51
Payments to Policyholders in 1905	7,766,186.17
Legal Reserve on Policies and all Claims	69,956,781.51
Special Reserve, in Addition to Reserve Above Given	2,215,316.00
Life Insurance Issued, Revived and Paid for in 1905	30,277,698.00
Life Insurance in Force January 1, 1906	250,858,315.00
Guarantee Fund in Excess of Requirements by Company's Standard	7,075,406.81
Guarantee Fund in Excess of Legal Requirements	9,290,722.81

PAID POLICYHOLDERS SINCE ORGANIZATION, $153,700,407.33.

GAINS IN BUSINESS DURING 1905.

Increase in Assets	$5,551,325.51
Increase in Guarantee Fund over Requirements	519,766.16
Increase in Premium Income	859,696.84
Increase in Total Income	1,028,913.75
Increase in Life Insurance in Force	13,553,576.00
Increase in Accident Insurance in Force	7,861,854.00

Fifty-fifth Annual Statement

OF THE

PHŒNIX MUTUAL LIFE

INSURANCE COMPANY

Of Hartford, Conn.

JANUARY 1, 1906.

ASSETS.

First Mortgages on Real Estate	$11,939,233.06
Home Office Property	265,000.00
Other Real Estate Owned by the Company	375,161.70
Stocks and Bonds	4,963,943.86
Premium Notes and Loans on Policies	1,484,437.75
Cash in Company's Office	480.23
Cash in Banks	457,982.46
Market Value of Stocks and Bonds Over Cost	202,923.14
Interest Accrued and Due	251,832.42
Net Deferred and Outstanding Premiums	304,020.76
TOTAL	$20,245,015.38

LIABILITIES.

Reserve on Policies in Force (at 4, 3½ and 3 Per Cent.)	$19,010,450.00
Claims by Death, Papers Complete	None
Claims by Death, Papers Incomplete, and Notified Claims	28,520.00
Instalment Claim Liability	34,385.00
Premiums Paid in Advance	18,795.00
Special Policy Reserves	209,002.00
Surplus or Additional Guarantee Over and Above All Computed and Contingent Liabilities	905,359.38
TOTAL	$20,245,015.38

GROWTH IN TEN YEARS.

Year.	Prem. Income.	Assets.	Insurance in Force.
1895	$1,330,804	$10,455,528	$40,460,331
1900	2,545,548	13,278,718	63,802,139
1905	3,510,245	20,245,015	89,292,470

Insurance in force	$89,292,470
Increase for year	7,003,799

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.

WILLIAM A. MOORE, 1st Vice-Pres.
A. A. WELCH, 2d Vice-Pres. and Actuary.
GEORGE S. MILLER, Supt. of Agencies.
WM. D. MORGAN, M. D., Med. Director.
JONATHAN B. BUNCE, Chairman.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.
HENRY N. KAUFMAN, Asst. Actuary.
WINSLOW RUSSELL, Asst. Supt. of Agencies.

EDWARD R. LAMPSON, M. D., Asst. Medical Director.

Fifty-fourth Annual Statement of the

Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company

Springfield, Mass.

Year Ending December 31, 1905.

RECEIPTS IN 1905.

Premiums		$7,043,501.34
Interest and Rents		1,662,264.57
Other Income		104,105.60
Total Receipts		$8,809,871.51

DISBURSEMENTS IN 1905.

Death Claims (Less $108,875 Reinsurance) and Matured Endowments (Less $5,000 Reinsurance)	$2,742,359.62	
Surplus Returned to Policyholders in dividends	1,012,176.87	
Surrendered and Canceled Policies	505,308.29	
Total Payments to Policyholders		$4,259,844.78
All other Disbursements		1,675,602.48
Total Disbursements		$5,935,447.26

ASSETS (MARKET VALUE).

First Mortgage Loans on Real Estate (Value of Property Mortgaged, $42,405,700; Fire Insurance as Additional Collateral, $15,897,021)	$15,111,922.44	
Loans Secured by Assignment of Company's Policies	3,948,509.00	
Stocks and Bonds	17,602,525.00	
Real Estate (Ledger Value), Including Home Office Building	559,472.15	
Premium Notes on Policies in Force	764,994.04	
Bills Receivable	4,087.55	
Deferred Premiums and Premiums in Course of Collection (Reserve charged in Liabilities), Net	896,999.91	
Interest and Rents Due and Accrued (Due, $1,428.76; Accrued, but not Due, $527,259.05)	528,687.81	
Cash on Hand and in Banks	665,755.45	
Total Assets		$40,082,953.35

LIABILITIES.

Reserve, Massachusetts Standard	$35,840,497.00	
Reported Death Claims and Matured Endowments Awaiting Proofs, $133,685; in Course of Settlement, $8,689.36	142,374.36	
Present Value of Payments Not Yet Due Under Installment Policies	219,996.89	
Unpaid Dividends (Due, $2,568.29; to Become Due, $160,628.74)	163,197.03	
Accumulated Dividend Fund (Including $30,868.64 Interest) subject to the Order of the Insured	308,218.46	
Premiums Collected, but Not Yet Due	23,741.57	
Unpaid Expenses, Bills Not Presented	18,554.46	
Total Liabilities		36,716,579.77
Surplus, December 31, 1905		$3,366,373.58

Number of Policies Issued in 1905, 13,147, Insuring	$26,416,432.00
Number of Policies in Force December 31, 1905, 87,036, Insuring (Including Reversionary Additions)	$195,058,250.00

GAINS FOR THE YEAR.

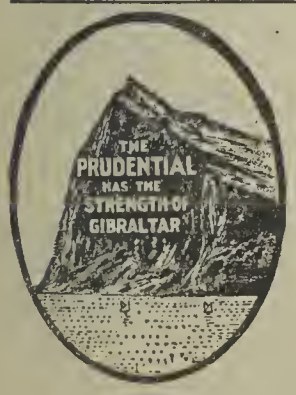
Increase in Amount of Insurance in Force	$12,184,131.00
Increase in Assets	3,011,656.00
Increase in Surplus	65,751.00
Increase in Income	599,232.00
Increase in Payments to Policyholders	650,460.00

JOHN A. HALL, President.
HENRY M. PHILLIPS, Vice-President.
WM. W. McCLENCH, 2d Vice-Pres. and Counsel.
WM. H. SARGEANT, Secretary.
OSCAR B. IRELAND, Actuary.

New York Office, 610 Empire Building, 71 Broadway.

Every Man Interested

in selecting a profession that offers the greatest prospect of success should read the booklet, "CAREERS FOR THE COMING MEN," by Hon. JOHN F. DRYDEN. It is a practical discussion of the opportunities offered in the field of life insurance. A copy will be sent free upon request.



The Prudential

Insurance Company of America.

Incorporated as a stock company by the State of New Jersey.

Home Office: Newark, N. J. JOHN F. DRYDEN, President.

Prudential Agents are money makers. Open territory for energetic men. The Grand Prize was awarded the Prudential at the St. Louis Exposition.

Annual Statement for the Year Ending December 31, 1905, as Filed by

The Inter-State Life Assurance Company

with The Insurance Department of the State of Indiana.

ASSETS.

Real Estate, Unincumbered	$35,000.00		
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	307,683.00		
Loans to Policyholders and Premium Notes on Policies in Force Secured by the Reserve Value of the Policies	913,777.65		
Cash in Banks, Trust Companies and Home Office	44,019.53		
Agents' Balances	1,800.65		
Accrued Interest	21,280.35		
Premiums Due and Unreported on Policies in Force December 31, 1905, after Deducting Commissions and all Expenses of Collection	63,486.99		
Law Library, Office Furniture and Fixtures	10,557.64		
Gross Assets		$1,397,605.81	
Deduct Assets Not Admitted:			
Law, Library, Office Furniture and Fixtures	10,557.64		
Agents' Balances	1,800.65		
Premium Loans in Excess of Reserves	1,987.88		
		$ 14,346.17	
TOTAL ADMITTED ASSETS			$1,383,259.64

LIABILITIES.

Net Present Value of all Outstanding Policies in Force on December 31, 1905, Computed by the Actuary of the Insurance Department of the State of Indiana	$1,555,627.00		
Deduct Net Value of Risks Reinsured in Other Companies	471.00		
Net Reserve Liabilities		$1,155,156.00	
Claims for Death Losses in Process of Adjustment	$3,000.00		
Claims for Death Losses Reported and No Proofs Received	6,000.00		
Claim for Death Loss Resisted by Company	10,000.00		
		19,000.00	
Premiums Paid in Advance		1,004.09	
TOTAL LIABILITIES		$1,175,160.09	
Surplus to Policyholders		208,099.55	
TOTAL ADMITTED ASSETS			$1,383,259.64

Assurance in Force December 31, 1905, $17,643,704.00

INCORPORATED 1865.

GERMAN INSURANCE CO.

OF FREEPORT, ILL.

The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$5,546,127.97
Cash Capital,	200,000.00
Liabilities, including reinsurance,	3,617,361.34
Net Surplus,	1,728,766.63

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

The Empire State Surety Co.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK
391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*
WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, JR., . *President*
EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

CHARTERED 1866.

Hartford Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

Up to date in business methods—in contracts in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.

$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.

Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.

INVESTIGATE.

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 11 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis and Cleveland.

ASSETS, $128,094,315.24

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1904 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $103 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1904:

391 per day in number of Claims Paid.

6,561 per day in number of Policies issued.

$1,426,700.50 per day in New Insurance Written.

$114,060.67 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.

$73,326.81 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks,	$64,270,818.12
Bonds and Mortgages,	33,094,145.00
Real Estate,	16,806,932.86
Cash,	7,323,372.74
Loans to Policyholders,	2,889,649.63
Premiums deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,246,081.13
Accrued Interest, Rents, etc.	463,315.76
	$128,094,315.24

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves,	$112,351,323.00
All other Liabilities,	907,772.25
Capital and Surplus,	14,835,219.99
	$128,094,315.24

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security, ... $277,290,466.48

Number of Policies in Force, ... 8,029,906

Amount of Outstanding Insurance, . . $1,470,424,281.00 Amount of Insurance Issued in 1904, . . $436,570,349.00

RECORD OF GROWTH IN TEN YEAR PERIODS:

	Income.	Assets.	Surplus.	Pols. in Force.	Outstanding Ins.
1884—	$2,915,937.86	$2,304,004.87	$613,120.25	675,477	$77,658,420.00—1884
1894—	18,208,742.75	22,326,622.16	4,034,028.21	3,574,909	441,375,367.00—1894
1904—	55,985,756.91	128,094,315.24	14,835,219.99	8,029,906	1,470,424,281.00—1904

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS:

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice Pres.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di.
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di.
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

THE METROPOLITAN PLATE GLASS AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK.

Home Office: 47 Cedar St.

Chartered 1874. The Oldest New York Company in Its Line.
Assets, January 1, 1904, $591,813.08.
Surplus to Policyholders, 389,895.29.

Plate Glass and Personal Accident Policies

OF THE MOST APPROVED FORMS

EUGENE H. WINSLOW, President, DANIEL D. WHITNEY, Vice-Pres't.
S. WM. BURTON, Secretary. ALONZO G. BROOKS, Ass't Sec'y.

RELIABLE AND ENERGETIC AGENTS WANTED.

How's Your Backbone? Can You Stand Alone?

Agents who can answer "strong" and "yes" to the above questions, and who want to be advanced more than they want advances, can secure splendid contracts with liberal renewal commission guarantees from the

Security Trust and Life Insurance Co.

BROADWAY and 26th STREET, NEW YORK

Mr. Thomas Bradley, President
Mr. Geo. B. Luper, 2d Vice-President and General Manager

The Mutual Benefit *LIFE INSURANCE CO.*

NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

ASSETS (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1905,	$93,237,790.27
LIABILITIES,	85,918,227.30
SURPLUS,	7,319,562.97

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

Germania Fire Insurance Co.

Southeast Corner of William and Cedar Streets, New York.

STATEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1905.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Premium Reserve	2,524,219.17
Reserve for Losses under Adjustment	182,967.55
Reserve for all other Claims	6,287.51
Net Surplus	2,639,225.50
Total Assets	$6,352,699.73

HUGO SCHUMANN, Pres't.

FR. VON BERNUTH, GEO. B. EDWARDS, } Vice-Presidents. CHARLES RUYKHAVER, GUSTAV KHER, } Secretaries.

Connecticut General Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

R. W. HUNTINGTON, Jr., . *President.*
GEORGE E. BULKLEY, . *Secretary and Actuary.*
E. B. PECK, . . . *Assistant Secretary.*
W. W. KNIGHT, M. D., . *Medical Adviser.*

HANOVER

Agencies in all the Principal Places in the United States.

Fire Insurance Company

OF NEW YORK.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1904	$2,617,755.75
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,406,159.17
Joint Stock Capital	500,000.00

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

Statement of United States Branch,

JANUARY 1, 1904.

Assets, held in the U. S. for the special protection of its American Policyholders.	$8,520.383.40
Liabilities, ...	5,204,870.83
Net Surplus, January 1st, 1904,	$3,315,512.57

AGENCIES IN ALL THE PRINCIPAL CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

National Life Insurance Co.

OF VERMONT.

Established in 1850. Operating in 44 States.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, President. H. M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President. A. B. BISBEE, Medical Director.
JAMES B. ESTEE, 2d Vice-President. C. E. MOULTON, Actuary.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary. F. A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1906, and gained during the past decade:

Assets	$34,519,093.04	Gain, 184 per cent.
Surplus	3,821,752.51	Gain, 165 per cent.
Insurance	145,480,904.00	Gain, 109 per cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.
A. H. GSELLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

Caledonian Ins. Co.,

FOUNDED 1805. ***of Scotland.***

"The Oldest Scottish Insurance Office."

UNITED STATES HEAD OFFICE:

Caledonian Building, 50 and 52 Pine St., New York City

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,883,210.00
Liabilities	1,215,950.00
Net Surplus Over All Liabilities	$667,260.00

CHARLES H. POST, U. S. Mgr.
R. C. CHRISTOPHER, Ass't U. S. Mgr.

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846—1905.

On January 1st, 1905, **The Connecticut Mutual** had received from its members $232,759,294.33. It had returned to them $234,353,488.98, or **$1,594,224.65** more than the amount received from them. It had assets on hand of $65,224,841.53, and a surplus of $4,828,696.64 with which to meet a liability, actual and contingent, of $60,396,144.89 on $167,167,515.00 at risk on 70,454 policies. Except in the possible case of some society or concern with only a local and slight membership, no comparable results have been accomplished by any other American Life Insurance Company.

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President.
HENRY S. ROBINSON, Vice-President.
HERBERT H. WHITE, Secretary.
DANIEL H. WELLS, Actuary.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410,42	$11,290.773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President.
EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer.
BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary.
T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

The Preferred Accident Insurance Co.

OF NEW YORK.

Accident Policies. Health Policies.

Large Benefits, Low Rates, Best Commissions.

January 1, 1904.

Assets,	$1,152,330
Surplus,	439,609

KIMBALL C. ATWOOD, Sec., 290 Broadway, NEW YORK.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres.
W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres.
CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.

LIMITED,

OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

"SAFE AS A NATIONAL BANK NOTE."

The Inter-State Life

ASSURANCE COMPANY,

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

CHARLES A. SUDLOW, President. F. P. DAVENPORT, Secretary

EASTERN DEPARTMENT: 621 Walnut Street, PHILADELPHIA.
H. E. ROBERTS, Second Vice-President.

SAFETY FUND INSURANCE.

NIAGARA

Fire Insurance Company

OF NEW YORK.

OFFICE:
135 & 137 BROADWAY.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1906. No. 6.

Published every Saturday by the Underwriter Printing and Publishing Company.

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All communications should be addressed to THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William Street, New York.

Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

WHILE the State insurance departments are investigating the insurance companies, a State Legislature has been investigating a State insurance department. Nothing that Messrs. Host and company have discovered in corporation management is more dreadful than has been revealed by the examination of the past and present of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department. Think of fees immorally collected from insurance companies by the department to the amount of $141,223 and turned over to Commissioner Durham's secretary, one J. Clayton Erb, who loyally testifies that he kept it all himself and was entitled to it, being an actuary by Durham's appointment, although the actual actuary of the department, Robert E. Forster, knew nothing of it. It was also found that a number of employees were on the department payrolls who never performed any service, one, a brother of ex-Governor Stone, having stayed on his farm. These are but sample bricks. The Auditor General admitted that the books of the insurance department had not been audited in twenty years. Peradventure these disclosures may set a fashion of investigating State insurance departments and then there may be other exiles than Andy Hamilton. Surely it must be with a chastened spirit that the insurance commissioners will read of a "yellow dog" and other forms of "graft" in a State insurance department.

IN estimating the value of the recent life insurance convention at Chicago and its probable influence on the future of life insurance in this country, it must not be forgotten that the active voting membership in the convention was composed of public officials whose tenures of office are fitful and dependent upon public opinion. Conceding to them honesty of purpose, nevertheless they were under the spell, more or less consciously, of the desire to stand well with their public, which makes and unmakes governors, attorneys general and insurance commissioners. If we can suppose that at present public temper is in a mood angry or apprehensive about life insurance companies, we need not be in doubt of the thought that animated the action of the members or of the purposes which they took to their homes. Despite the efforts of the non-official attendants upon the convention to qualify its deliberations its tone was radical. But a long spring and summer intervene between these days and the elections, and it is a question whether with the inevitable subsidence of popular interest in life insurance management which is coming, the politicians who are now full of proposed law making will care so much about it then. If such should be the case, the action of the convention will be without serious value. The real remedial force we believe is going to come from the action of the New York Legislature upon the report of the late committee of investigation. Whatever is done is likely to commend itself to other State legislatures and be preferred to any propositions growing out of the Chicago convention. While some of the resolutions adopted as the sense of the meeting are not without merit, they cannot succeed as a whole. Schemes to insure the participation of all policyholders in the management of their companies, complete standardizing of policy forms and the abolition of deferred dividends are not practical. Some regulation of investments, a larger representation of policyholders at annual meetings, a simplifying of policy forms and annual accountings of surplus are possible. The convention appointed a committee of eleven Western and four Eastern men to formulate reforms and report them to another meeting to be held simultaneously with that of the insurance commissioners in September. As we have said, any action the commissioners are likely to take then will be anticipated by that of the New York Legislature and probably rendered superfluous. The convention, it should be remarked, was not exactly representative of State executives and attorneys. There were but four governors and four attorneys general actually present. But there were thirty insurance commissioners there. The life underwriters who were invited as special guests felt themselves rather snubbed.

OFTEN the observer at a distance is better qualified to judge of conditions than the participants, for he sees them in their entirety, while the vision of the latter is restricted to their immediate surroundings. For this reason we give space to the views of an astute British life underwriter interested in the results of the recent upheaval and the means of re-establishing the business here in its former prosperity. Most of what he says is wise and practical, and especially so is his insistence that companies which have suffered from the investigation of their methods of doing business shall continue under the management of insurance men. He points out that eminent citizens, chosen in the midst of a popular agitation for reform because of their social, political or financial standing to be directors of an insurance company, are liable under pressure of an uninformed public opinion to strive to effect economies and to experiment with plans that may in the end endanger the company's safety. Such economies, for example, as the substitution of cheaper and less experienced employees for those who have by peculiar ability and practical knowledge built up the prosperity and soundness of a life insurance company could not fail to affect it injuriously. A proposition to apply to railroading, banking or any other form of commercial industry such a procedure would be derided by sensible people. Life insurance, more than any of these, requires expert understanding in management. In view of the report that the Western insurance departments which have been examining the New York Life insurance com-

pany will demand the wholesale dismissal of its most experienced officers, we think these reflections should commend themselves to the policyholders and agents of the company, and also to those of all companies to which it is proposed to apply similar "economies." It is interesting to notice in connection with the publication of the views of this British commentator on the American life insurance situation that the disquietude which recent events have aroused in the minds of British policyholders of American companies is also being felt for the first time in home insurance affairs. The *Insurance Record* of London speaks of a "scare" that is beginning to manifest itself in England, because it is realized that the Act of 1870 upon which British life insurance is reared is "full of glaring imperfections which have become more and more manifest with each succeeding year." The initiative of a movement to reconstruct the business comes from the actuaries, instead of the policyholders and legislators. The British companies will be fortunate if the yellow daily newspapers of their country do not catch the hint and start a panic. If in spite of government supervision abuses have grown up in American life insurance management, why should British companies be free from them after thirty-five years of unmolested self control? It will not do to plead superior virtue in individuals, for human nature under similar circumstances is the same.

Facts and Opinions.

We have received the following communication from Mr. S. H. Wolfe:

I beg to call your attention to the fact that in the February 3 issue of your paper I am reported as saying: "The deferred dividend policy is the best contract, either from the standpoint of the policyholder or the company. There is no objection to the annual dividend policy from the company's viewpoint except the expense of frequent accounting. Where policyholders are left to choose there are ten deferred to one annual dividend policy." This report is completely at variance with the facts. I never made the statements attributed to me, and they do not correctly represent my views on this very important subject. As a matter of justice to me I would request that you give publicity through the columns of your paper to the fact that this report is incorrect, and that I entertain views on the deferred dividend contract directly opposite to those quoted.

Very respectfully yours, S. H. Wolfe.

The statement originated in Chicago and appeared in the Associated Press dispatches from that city published in the daily papers here. We regret having been the medium of extending their misinformation, and trust that this explanation will correct any misapprehension of Mr. Wolfe's position that may thus have obtained currency.

The life insurance company which has **"the strength of Gibraltar"** has given one more proof, if proof were needed, that the use of the phrase is well warranted. **The Prudential's financial statement for 1905**, just issued, shows that the company had one of the greatest years in its history. Large increases are reported in all branches of the business which make for strength and returns to policyholders. The amount of insurance in force now stands at $1,170,000,000, and the number of policies in force has reached a total of nearly 6,500,000. Of great importance to policyholders is the fact that the assets now foot up to $107,000,000, an increase of over $18,000,000 for the year; the liabilities are less than $91,500,000 (including over $88,000,000 reserve held to protect policy contracts), leaving a surplus of $16,000,000. Ten years ago the assets were only about $15,000,000, and the surplus about $3,000,000, which shows at what a prodigious rate this energetic young company has grown. When it is remembered that the $16,000,000 surplus represents so much margin for the protection of policyholders' interests, the strength and stability of the Prudential as an institution are apparent. It is also of great interest to note that the voluntary payments to policyholders by the Prudential over and above the requirements of policy contracts exceed $6,000,000. In other words, although the regular industrial policies now issued by the Prudential provide for dividends and additional benefits, the policies issued years ago contained no such provision. Nevertheless the company places the old and the new policies on the same liberal footing. The payments to policyholders last year were over $14,000,000, and the total payments since organization more than $107,000,000. It is also noted that there has been a reduction in the expense rate amounting to over 2 per cent. of the premium income; that a large and increasing proportion of the company's assets consists of railroad and other bonds of the highest grade, as well as several thousand first mortgages on improved real estate, and that the amount of cash held by the company is distributed among 274 banks and trust companies throughout the United States. The company paid over $1,000,000 in dividends to policyholders last year, and had a decreased death rate, due to care in the selection of risks. The accuracy of the company's records has been certified to by a firm of public accountants of international reputation. The showing is altogether an excellent one; no such results have hitherto been achieved by any company of the same age, and they can only be attributed to thoroughly sound and upright business methods, coupled with keen enterprise, and one does not need to go further than this cause to account for the Prudential's great success. In commenting on the great record of 1905, President Dryden says that the voluntary testimony given by the Prudential's officers before the Armstrong Committee strengthened the confidence of the public in the company.

The **absurdity of condemning as "nepotism"** the employment by a life insurance company of the relative of another employee who is competent to perform his duties is properly rapped in the following paragraph which we find in *Note and Comment*, the successor of the *Guardian*. Our contemporary says:

The daily press is indulging very vigorously in parading the fact that, in connection with certain of the life insurance companies of the country, the sons, or other relations of certain officers or directors, have been given employment. The very statement of the case, with no reference whatever to the compensation that is paid, or the duties that are to be performed, or the manner in which the duties are performed, seems to be, in the estimation of the press, an indictment that is unanswerable as showing mismanagement and favoritism. Yet, if we enter any other branch of business in the world, we find it held a commendable fact that the son seeks to follow in the footsteps of the parent, and that the man who has the employment of assistants turns to those whom he knows and in whom he has reason, through his knowledge, to have confidence, and gather those, rather than strangers, about him. Why the press or the public should hold that a different rule ought to be shown in connection with life insurance management would be incomprehensible, were it not for the abundant evidence which has been given within the last few months that the press is ready to use anything and everything as evidence of wrong on the part of insurance managers, and that the public, under the constant misrepresentations and irritations of the press, are ready to receive such bare assertions as evidence to that end.

The real questions in connection with the officers and employees of a life insurance company, as of every other business enterprise, are, are they capable of doing the work of their positions, are they doing that work, and is the pay measured by the work, so that they return value for what they receive? When these questions are answered, the action of the person in authority, who has employed his assistants, must be judged thereby, and not by the question whether some twenty-five hundred dollar a year employee happens to be the brother of the wife of the sister of the uncle of some cousin of himself or his wife.

In beginning his February address to the agents of the Equitable Life Assurance Society **Vice President Tarbell touches up the slothful servant** by saying:

I have just finished a careful review of the business done by the society in January, and it presents a question which I am going to ask you to help me solve. I find that some of our agencies are making splendid records (I have just this moment been handed a telegram from Messrs. Wisdom & Levy, our managers for Louisiana, reading: "New business

closed twenty-ninth exceeds entire January business last year") while others are doing very little. I cannot find the reason for this state of things in any difference in conditions in different parts of the country. Prosperity is universal over the whole country. Business is literally booming in almost any line you can mention. Yet in spite of this there is a wide discrepancy in results, and I want you to help me find the reason and the remedy. Did I find the general reason in a specific case I came across a few days ago? One of our general agents—a man who prides himself on his ability as a personal writer and who can fairly be called a representative agent—sought an interview with me, and complained most bitterly of conditions; found fault with almost everything, and said it was impossible to write business in his section of the country. After listening to him attentively I asked him if I could be as frank with him as he had been with me, and put a direct question to him. Gaining his consent, I asked him how many men he had seen and interviewed, with a view to securing their applications, since the first of January. After giving the matter some thought he admitted that he had seen but two and these only for a few moments. After that he ceased his harangue and frankly admitted that he had no right whatever to complain of conditions in his field, and that if he had spent the time looking for applications that he had in railing at what he first characterized to me as insurmountable conditions, he would have had more business to his credit and fewer troubles. If you are among those who are not writing a satisfactory business these days, ask yourself, how many people do I see daily, and how persistently do I try to secure their applications? When you can face these questions without an accusing conscience and the answers are satisfactory to yourself, then you are no longer in the class that is not doing a satisfactory business.

Two **appreciations of insurance journalism** by managers of insurance companies appear in this week's exchanges. Our Toronto contemporary, *Office and Field*, quotes Managing Director Goldman, of the North American Life, as saying at a dinner given by the directors to the agency force in commemoration of the company's twenty-fifth anniversary:

He said, among other kind things, that those who made a practice of reading the insurance journals regularly derived a benefit and an education which were of incalculable good to them, the readers, keeping them in touch with all that was transpiring in the business, and making them much more fit to continue with and prosecute their work, and more intelligently to discuss the endless questions constantly coming up. In his own impressive way Mr. Goldman took full advantage of the occasion to bring home to all who so kindly and fervently responded to the toast the value to insurance and insurance men of the insurance journal.

In the *Monthly Bulletin* of the Fidelity and Casualty Company the editor, President Seward, in acknowledging the receipt of a letter of thanks from Mr. Wohlgemuth for previous commendations of the value of insurance papers, says:

We are not preachers at all, and we do not wish to set ourselves up as critics of insurance journalists. There are many gentlemen in that profession with whom we have acquaintance, and for whom we entertain the greatest respect. They need no commendation from us. Yet the fact remains that the advertising columns of insurance papers, like those of other journals, are of great concern to the publishers, furnishing them with no inconsiderable income. It is but natural that journalists should be very chary of criticising their patrons. The fact that in large part insurance journalists stand fast for right things is creditable to them. Indeed there are some old Romans among them (some not so very old in years) that have never been and never will be muzzled by any considerations of self interest. If we say all honor to them we do so with plenty of reason and much gratitude.

The *Economist* of London contains the following summary of a decision in an English court involving the **liability of a life insurance company** which has accepted a premium but not yet delivered the policy to the applicant:

A matter of considerable importance both to insurers and insurance companies came before the Common Sergeant in the Lord Mayor's Court on Thursday, when Mr. J. E. Wolfe sued the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States for the return of a premium of £121 8s. 4d. It appeared that the plaintiff had been insured in the company under an endowment policy, and that upon this policy maturing he elected to take in cash a sum of £166. After an interview with an official of the company, however, he signed a form of proposal for a fresh insurance, underwent a medical examination, and allowed the society to appropriate part of the money due by them to him in payment of the first year's premium. On the following day, however, he intimated to the society that he had resolved not to proceed with the insurance, and applied for the return of the money, but the society declined to assent to this course, and action was brought accordingly. After hearing the case, the Common Sergeant held that the money was paid on an unaccepted proposal; that the society had not bound itself to anything, and that as the proposal was recalled before anything had been done upon it the plaintiff was entitled to judgment. It is not necessary to discuss this decision at length, as it will probably come before a higher court; but it may be pointed out that hitherto the assumption has been that upon the receipt of a premium the liability of an insurance company commences, and this liability has been accepted by life insurance offices. But if insurers are allowed to withdraw after they have paid a premium, on the ground that the contract is not complete until a policy is issued, the converse must hold good, and in that case an office would be entitled to refuse to pay in the event of death occurring between the payment of the first premium and the actual delivery of the policy. That, we imagine, is not a position that would be regarded as satisfactory by the general public.

The following tabulation in the *Journal of Commerce* shows the amounts received from and the **amounts remitted to home offices by** the various **foreign fire insurance companies** reporting to the State Insurance Department for the year ending December 31 last:

	Received From.	Remitted To.
Alliance	$13,931	$143,738
Atlas	.....	72,855
Aachen and Munich	7,537	11,452
British America	.....	22,625
Caledonian	.....	161,442
Commercial Union	.....	636,847
Cologne	111,158	116,830
Hamburg-Bremen	115,500	147,051
Law Union and Crown	16	72,273
London Assurance	207	259,016
London and Lancashire	.....	305,003
Liverpool and London and Globe	72,878	1,339,957
Moscow	.....	.....
Munich	.....	119,140
Netherlands	.....	15,000
North British and Mercantile	.....	825,907
Norwich Union	.....	274,356
Northern	1,067	578,495
Palatine	.....	52,939
Phœnix	156,981	167,689
Prussian National	.....	.....
Royal	1,169,031	2,268,765
Rossia	11,045	.....
Royal Exchange	254,454	87,643
Sun	4,750	508,763
Skandia	.....	203,494
Scottish Union and National	.....	1,333
Salamandra	.....	150,000
Svea	.....	22,025
Transatlantic	.....	57,753
Union	15,000	203,796
Western	.....	114,558

At a meeting of **seventeen Western and Southern life insurance companies** at St. Louis January 30 the following pronouncement **against Federal supervision** was adopted:

First—Federal supervision has not prevented the failure of national banks nor disregard of interstate commerce laws by railroads.

Second—The greatest menace to the small dealer in life insurance is rebating by large companies.

Third—No one doubts that an actual insurance trust will be formed whenever such an organization can be successfully carried out, and taking away State control of insurance will result in the erection of the greatest financial trust ever known.

Fourth—Recent disclosures prove that three big companies spent $100,000 in the past two years with the press to influence public sentiment for national supervision.

The delegates at the meeting formed a permanent organization under the name of the **American Life Insurance Convention,** and elected the following officers: President, J. B. Reynolds, Kansas City Life; secretary and treasurer, T. S. Blackburn, Bankers Reserve, Omaha; vice presidents, W. B. Smith, Volunteer State Life, Chattanooga; I. M. Hamilton, Federal; C. R. Porter, State Mutual, Georgia; Dr. J. T. Battle, Greensboro Life, North Carolina; W. A. Lindly, Security Mutual, Nebraska; E. P. Nelson, Missouri State; George B. Peak, Central, Iowa; Charles E. Dark, American Central. The executive committee is composed of the president, secretary, C. E. Dark, W. B. Smith, I. M. Hamilton, C. R. Porter and B. H. Robison, Bankers Reserve, Omaha. The next meeting will be held at Chattanooga October 2.

The Pennsylvania Legislative Investigating Committee, which has been inquiring into the methods of the **Pennsylvania State Insurance Department,** presented its report to the Senate and House on Tuesday, and the committee was con-

tinued until the close of the present extra session, February 15, to further investigate such additional information as may come before it. The committee in its report calls the attention of Governor Pennypacker and Attorney General Carson to the testimony secured which may tend to establish malfeasance in office on the part of former insurance commissioners, especially that which relates to receiving the actuary's compensation, and also to the illegal fees alleged to have been taken under Durham's administration of the office. The committee further recommends that all the employees of the Insurance Department be salaried; that the actuary be an officer of the State; that examiners of insurance companies be salaried; that the fees and charges of the Insurance Department be reduced, so as to lessen the burden upon the policyholder; that all fees shall go to the State Treasury; that there be a complete reorganization of the clerical force in the department, and that there be a quarterly audit of the accounts of all State officers receiving money by a special officer created for that purpose.

The examiners and accountants representing the insurance departments of the States of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kentucky, Tennessee and Nebraska completed their four months' joint **investigation into the affairs of the New York Life insurance company** on February 2. It is understood that the report of the commissioners will deal severely with the trustees and officers of the company, and it is even rumored that it will call for the removal of several of them. To defray the expenses of this joint examination the New York Life has had to pay $35,000, and each of the examiners has drawn from the company compensation at the rate of $30 a day and an additional allowance of $5 a day for incidental expenses. Two of their number, acting as a sub-committee, also have enjoyed a five weeks' sojourn in Paris at the company's expense, ostensibly for the purpose of investigating the New York Life's Paris office. The various examinations of the Equitable Life have cost the policyholders some $350,000 of their money. The total given does not, however, include the lawyers' bills and other expenses of a general character incurred in the Hyde-Alexander fight. When these expenditures are added, the outlay by the Equitable as a result of the Hyde-Alexander trouble will amount to probably $500,000.

On the last page of this week's issue appears the annual statement of the **Washington Life insurance company,** the second under the new management, although the first was made only a few weeks after the official reorganization of last year took place. Comparison of the new with the old is naturally invited. The Washington Life has prospered during the year recently closed, notwithstanding it had just emerged from troubles of its own. It is on an exceptionally sound basis, and administered by men of insurance knowledge and experience. The most interesting features of the statement are a decrease in all disbursements last year as compared with the previous year of $516,259, a decrease in head office salaries of $59,874, in total head office expenses of $79,573, and in agency expenses of $186,630. The increase in assets was $522,867, of which $462,630 was in the reserves. The earnings for policyholders were $142,576. The total income for the year was $3,639,633, of which $2,175,343 was in renewals and $271,329 was premiums on new business. The amount of new insurance paid for was $6,892,547, making the total amount of insurance in force $63,255,371.

The first annual statement of the **Pacific-Conservative Life insurance company** contains some interesting particulars. It shows that this combination of two active forces now leads all the companies in California business, and writes more business in the State than any two of its competitors. Here are some of the new figures: New paid-for business in 1905, exclusive of industrial business, $10,550,735; insurance in force at the close of the year, $94,836,637; admitted assets, $10,803,293; surplus, $946,362; income in 1905, $4,637,746. The *Pacific-Conservative News* for January says:

> With Colonel Tupper as president of the Pacific Mutual Life insurance company, and occupying the same position at the same time with the Conservative Life insurance company, the amalgamation of the two Pacific Coast companies has been practically effected. It requires but the formality of publication and minor details required by custom to make the consolidation final. This will be completed shortly. Now the West may claim a large life insurance company of its own; imbued with its own spirit; administered by its own sons and keeping its vast assets invested at home. The Pacific-Conservative will become a factor in the insurance world of America. Its representatives will compose a class of men who stand for those things which are highest and best.

In praise of actuaries in an address at the jubilee meeting of the Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland, held in Edinburgh last month, the president, Mr. Gunn, of the Scottish Widows Fund, said:

> There are probably many reasons why it is possible such a condition of things can exist in America and not on this side of the Atlantic; but while the main safeguard we have here is the more thorough supervision exercised by our boards of directors, yet there is another of almost equal importance, namely, the difference in the duty and power of the actuary in America and the actuary in Great Britain. I say merely in the duty and power, for, as far as the men themselves are concerned, America will stand comparison with any other country. They are, however, according to the custom of the United States, divorced from the management of the offices with which they are connected, and almost invariably subordinated to those who have charge of the financial arrangements, and are thus unable to control the commercial policy of the offices. In Great Britain, on the other hand, as you are aware, the actuary usually controls the office, and if he does not control he has an important voice in its management. One cannot help imagining—and I think we are almost warranted in doing so—that the training which an actuary receives has its effect on the morals as well as on the intellect, and we may be sure that if the three great American companies had been ruled by actuaries instead of financiers, we would not have heard of what are called the "Assurance Scandals."

A Paris press dispatch of Monday says that the contest between the **American insurance companies and the French Government** has been settled to the satisfaction of the companies. It has lasted since last year. A new law was enacted then providing that the reserves of the companies, guaranteeing their French policies, must be in French money and kept in France. Hitherto the money had been kept abroad. The companies did not object, but the department entrusted with drawing up rules for the application of the new law made it retroactive so as to cover all existing policies in France, including all that had been taken out prior to the passage of the law. This would, if carried out, have entailed an enormous transfer of money to Paris, and the companies objected. The Government now agrees that the rules shall not apply to old policies and has applied to the Council of State to alter the rules accordingly. This decision, it is stated, is due to Premier Rouvier's personal action, his purpose being to testify to the "friendliness of France for President Roosevelt and the United States."

Lawson is in the West again, boasting, as usual, of the immense number of life insurance proxies in his control, and claiming, according to the Minnesota Governor, to have something astonishing "up his sleeve." Lawson pretends to own a cheap secret process of making copper with which he is going to knock out copper stocks in Wall Street. Boston papers say that his process does not make copper, but some other composition. Lawson has succeeded in inducing Governor Johnson of Minnesota to join him in a scheme to break into the New York and Mutual Life insurance companies at their next annual meetings. Being asked by a newspaper reporter if he knew whether Lawson really holds enough prox-

ies to control the companies the Governor said: "I believe from the showing he made this afternoon that he has." In Chicago Lawson told an inquiring reporter that he did not own so many proxies and wondered "how such a story got out." He has also been in Des Moines trying to engage Governor Cummins in his schemes. The Governor has not yet consented.

At a special meeting of the stockholders of the Interstate Life Assurance Company of New Orleans, held February 3, amendments to the charter were adopted, providing for a change of name to the **Louisiana National Life Assurance Society** and for a reduction of the capital stock from $300,000 to $240,000, the same to be paid for at a premium of 25 per cent., thereby creating a surplus to the credit of the company of $60,000. The capital has been oversubscribed on the above basis, and will be paid in full within a week. A competent and experienced agency force is being rapidly gathered by Mr. A. S. Smith, superintendent of agents, and the company will begin writing business in a few days. The stockholders of the company have each promised to take out a policy, and many other influential residents of the city and State have done likewise. The company, therefore, hopes to write $1,000,000 during its first month of business. Mr. P. L. Woolston has been appointed assistant secretary and actuary. Dr. L. Sexton, of New Orleans, has been appointed medical director.

At the annual election of officers, held January 31, the following changes took place in the **National Life Insurance Company of the U. S. A.:** Albert M. Johnson, formerly vice president and treasurer, was elected president, succeeding P. M. Starnes, resigned; Robert E. Sackett, for many years the secretary of the company, was elected vice president; Charles B. Shedd, of Chicago, was elected treasurer, and Robert D. Lay, of Chicago, secretary. The two last named have been identified with the company for a number of years, Mr. Shedd having held the office of assistant treasurer. The resignation of Mr. Starnes, which was tendered in December last, but which was not acted upon until the annual meeting, was accepted with regret by the directors of the company, who fully appreciate the earnest and faithful services of Mr. Starnes, and recognize that his ability and personality have been strongly influential in adding to the business and prestige of the company during his administration. Mr. Starnes has retired on account of ill health.

Reports are in circulation of the **serious illness of John A. McCall,** who is now at the Laurel House, Lakewood, N. J., with two physicians and two nurses in attendance. A *Times* dispatch from Lakewood says that "Mr. McCall's condition is giving his family and his friends great concern, and among those who know him doubt is expressed that he will ever be in condition to engage in active business again." It appears that Mr. McCall is suffering from a disease of the liver, and that when he was removed to Lakewood a week ago he improved so much in the bracing air that he was able to go about in his automobile and even take short walks. But he has since suffered a relapse. Dr. John Vanderpoel, of New York, is his own family physician, and Dr. Paul T. Kimball, of Lakewood, who is the family physician of George Gould, is the local attendant. Justice Edward E. McCall, the brother of the ex-president, and Secretary John C. McCall, his son, have been summoned to Lakewood, where Mrs. McCall and other members of the family are assembled.

A St. Louis press dispatch says that Superintendent Vandiver has sent letters to the presidents of more than **sixty life insurance companies** doing business in Missouri, notifying them that unless they give written promises to institute certain vital reforms in the management of their businesses they will not be allowed to renew their **licenses to do business in Missouri** when the present licenses expire on March 1. Mr. Vandiver makes three specific demands upon the companies, as follows:

First—That they cease rebating in every and any form.

Second—That all advisory board contracts or other forms of special contracts be abandoned at once.

Third—That all illustration figures or books of estimates of future dividends be prepared in future by the regular actuary of the company or be done away with altogether.

Mr. Vandiver concludes his letter as follows:

I therefore notify you that this department will exert its utmost influence and authority to stop the above named practices, and desires to learn the intention of your company before renewing your license.

A brochure on the **"Deferred Dividend and Family Protection,"** by Rufus W. Weeks, vice president of the New York Life insurance company, has been published. Also a larger booklet, entitled "True Accounting with Deferred Dividends." Mr. Weeks is the ablest exponent of the value of the deferred dividend system, and his contributions to the discussion of the subject at this time should be studied by all who are interested in it. In concluding the first work Mr. Weeks says:

One of the objects of a sensible man in entering into such an agreeement will be to tie himself in advance to the continuous payments necessary to the unbroken protection of his family, and since the chance that, if forfeiture of profits occurs, it will be a matter of choice and not of necessity is as 25 to 1, it is clear that such a man is not playing with the welfare of his family, but is on the contrary safeguarding that welfare. Thus disappears the superstition that deferred dividend is gambling, and common sense has the field with the self evident propositon that deferred dividend, which has enabled life insurance to do its true work on a vastly greater scale than ever before, is the most efficient friend of family protection.

The **Penn Mutual Life,** having replied to Commissioner Folk, of Tennessee, that a former administration of the company contributed $10,000 ten years ago to the **Republican campaign fund,** has received the following peremptory letter from the Commissioner:

While the present management of your company did not sanction or participate in the diversion of the funds of the company to political purposes, yet it is the ruling of this department that you should take prompt and effectual steps to have said funds returned to the treasury of the company by those who illegally diverted them, and this department will expect you to do so. It is deemed highly essential that this be done, to the end that your company put itself in conformity to the law governing my action. With respect to the appropriations for the relief of flood and fever localities, and local military organizations, homes for inebriates and Grand Army encampments and like objects, while commendable in themselves as objects entirely worthy of individual support, this department is unable to see any warrant or law for making them out of the company's funds, and under the law governing it cannot sanction such appropriations by companies doing business in this State.

As the proposed railroad rate law which passed the House of Representatives this week by a vote of 346 to 7 is feared by some fire underwriters to be a stepping stone to the **making of fire insurance rates by the Government,** if the principle of national supervision of insurance is conceded, it is well to explain just what the railroad rate law will be:

The bill, as passed by the House, gives the Interstate Commerce Commission authority, when a rate has been complained of as "unreasonable" by a shipper, to investigate that rate, state whether or not it is unreasonable, and if found to be unreasonable to name a rate which is to be just and reasonable and fairly remunerative, which is to be the maximum rate to be charged. This rate, so fixed, is to go into effect thirty days after it is announced by the commission, subject during that time to be set aside or suspended by the commission or by the courts. After it has gone into effect it is to remain the rate for three years. During this time, according to opinions expressed in the debate, the rate may also be reviewed by the courts, and if found to be in conflict either with the terms of the act or with the Constitution, by being confiscatory, can be set aside by the courts.

The embarkation of the **Russian Government in the life insurance business** in competition with private companies is

under the consideration of the Government, and an insurance project has been elaborated by a commission, and is now before the Council of the Empire. A St. Petersburg dispatch says:

It is proposed that the insurance shall be effected through the network of State savings banks, the employees of which will be allowed commissions on all business secured. Policies will be limited to $2,500, and through the cheapness of operation and the facilities afforded by the savings bank system it is expected that State insurance will drive private companies entirely from the field of small insurance. While the aim is to furnish cheap insurance, provision is made for division of the profits with the policyholders. The advantage to the Government is not lost sight of. It is pointed out that by this plan there will be a large reserve placed in the hands of the Government, which may be invested in Government bonds. The scheme will be operated in connection with the contemplated project of State insurance for workmen.

In an interview published in the New York *Times* of Sunday ex-Judge **Roger A. Pryor** speaks thus of the **Federal insurance supervision** project:

He said that by a decision of the Supreme Court many years ago it had been adjudged that the Government had no constitutional right to such supervision. The decision in that case had since then been the law on the subject, and while it was in the power of the Supreme Court to reverse its own decision, that action was extremely rare. The only way in which the proposed insurance arrangement could be effected would be by an amendment to the Constitution. Men at the head of the insurance of the country would very likely find it easier to run things in their own way through manipulating a central bureau in Washington, rather than by having the legislative enactments of forty-four different States to battle with. The recent examination of the companies here showed the complete adequacy of State authority over them, though its agents had been so lax and remiss in their examination of the companies until the late exposures were made. The law of New York, he said, governing insurance was a model of stringency and efficiency; it only needed to be honestly administered.

At the annual meeting of the **New England Women's Life Underwriters' Association**, held in Boston last week, Mrs. Florence E. Shall was elected president to succeed Miss Emily A. Ransom, who declined re-election after a service of four years. The other officers elected include Miss Lucy M. Morrill and Mrs. L. Talbot Lane, vice presidents; Mrs. Mary E. Norfolk, treasurer; Miss Imogene Burnham, secretary. The executive committee consists of Miss E. A. Ransom, Mrs. V. B. Peakes, Dr. Sarah M. Crawford, Mrs. I. Dresser, Miss Helen M. Fogler and Miss Mary G. A. Toland. The association is planning to give President Scovel, of the National Association, a reception on Wednesday, February 21, on the evening of which day the Boston Life Underwriters' Association has its annual dinner, with Mr. Scovel as a guest.

The **National Mutual Church insurance company**, the official fire insurance company of the Methodist Episcopal Church, denies the story emanating from the State of Washington that it must pay 2 per cent. tax on all premiums in that State, or cease business. Its officers say that it employs no agents, doing business directly from the home office with the ministers and trustees of the church, and in practice it is a Methodist church, carrying its own insurance, distributing the liability among those who see fit to avail themselves of the opportunity. In order that the liability may be properly distributed, the company operates under an Illinois contract and complies with the Illinois insurance laws. It makes the contention that since churches and parsonages, the only property which it insures, are exempt from taxation in the various States, there is no moral liability upon it to pay taxes on insurance premiums on such property.

Temporary organization was effected in Chicago last week of a **mutual policyholders' association**, representing delegates from city clubs and municipal organizations. H. S. Vail, an alleged independent actuary, was prominent in the organization and acted as temporary chairman. He claimed that there were 192,000 policyholders of mutual companies in Illinois, and that they could only secure adequate representation by uniting on one man to serve as trustee. The organization will try to secure the proxies of policyholders and use them to force representation. Mr. Vail has long been anxious to be made a trustee of the Northwestern Mutual Life, for which company he formerly had an agency contract, but was unable to muster up much of a following before the present troubles broke out. He is well known for his desire to be connected with such movements as a form of free advertisement.

The **"Adjusters' Manual,"** "for the settlement of accident and health claims," published by the Spectator Company, New York, is by Dr. C. H. Harbaugh, of Philadelphia, a well known authority on the subject. It aims to assist insurance companies, railroad and transportation companies, adjusters and agents in the adjustment of claims resulting from accident or sickness. The author has formulated and classified, under appropriate heads, all conditions that can be met in dealing with this class of business. This has never been done before, and the result will be useful and valuable to every individual engaged in the settlement of personal accident or health claims. Technical terms have been absolutely eliminated in discussing medical subjects; the book, therefore, is easily comprehended by all. Price $2 per copy.

In reference to the recent trial of the suit of the Liverpool and London and Globe against **Mrs. Susan Day Parker** Manager Eaton, of the company, says that there has evidently been great misapprehension as to the complaint made in the suit, which had been strictly limited to a claim for the return of the value of sundry articles included by mistake in the schedule of the yacht's equipment, and that there was no warrant whatsoever for statements that had been made that his company had alleged incendiarism or any other crime against Mrs. Parker, there being no issue of that kind in the case. The allegation made during the course of the trial by the late captain of the yacht Scythian regarding the origin of the fire which destroyed the yacht was drawn out on cross-examination by Mrs. Parker's counsel.

The case of the **Mutual Reserve Life** did not go before the New York grand jury this week as was expected, because much preliminary ground has to be covered with J. D. Wells, formerly vice-president of the company, who has arrived from Canada to appear for the prosecution. It was Wells who sued President Burnham and Vice President Eldridge for false arrest three years ago. They paid $7,000 in settlement, and, it is alleged, from the funds of the company. Suits against the company are reported from Omaha, Neb., by John L. Webster for $11,000; from Reading, Pa., by Ann D. Reifsnyder, for $2,000, and from Baltimore, Md., by Oliver Hobitzell, for $10,000. Breach of contract is the allegation in each case.

The former attorney for the Illinois State Insurance Department, Fred H. Rowe, was instrumental during his term of office in having a receiver appointed for the **Illinois Central Fire**, a company operating under an old special charter. Since retiring from his connection with the Insurance Department Mr. Rowe has formed an organization of other politicians and paid off the claims against the company, secured an order discharging the receiver, and applied to the Illinois Insurance Department for a license. The department has decided to antagonize the use of any more old special charters for fire insurance companies, and has made a motion to vacate the court's order discharging the receiver.

The **official report of the Armstrong Investigating Committee** is being published by George A. Henderson, 63 Wall street, under the authorization of the resolution passed by the

Legislature last week. It is claimed by the publisher to be "the only official publication of the copy last revised and finally corrected by the committee itself." The first nine volumes will contain a verbatim transcript of the proceedings of the committee from end to end. The tenth volume will be supplementary thereto. The price will be $50 for the complete set, which may be had for examination on approval for thirty days. An advertisement of the publication appears on a following page of this week's issue.

The *Dry Goods Guide* (N. Y.) gives excellent advice in an article headed "How to Handle Britishers," in which he urges Uncle Sam to write English according to English usage. I wish his advice were followed by the horde of Yankee "ad men" in London, who turn out excellent work from a printer's point of view, but execrable from a literary point of view. They possess original ideas, but cannot express them in standard English. Thus, a Yankee, in the employ of Smith, advertises that "we can have representative call upon you!" Why could he not have said, "Our representative will call upon you?"—*Business, London.*

Probably you did not understand the Yankee. He was perpetrating a joke. That reminds us of the good Englishman in New York, who heard the bareheaded man in the street say, "Where am I at?" "Why didn't he say where is my 'at?" asked our astonished cousin.

Members of the **Workingmen's Insurance Commission** of Illinois were appointed by Governor Deneen on January 30 as follows: Charles H. Hulburd, of Chicago, president of the National Watch Company of Elgin, president; Dr. C. R. Henderson, University of Chicago, secretary; Prof. David Kinley, University of Illinois; Harrison Jones, of Chicago, head of the insurance department of the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad; Adolph E. Adeloff, business agent of the Cigarmakers' Union of Chicago. The duty of the commission is to report to the next Legislature of Illinois a comprehensive system of workingmen's insurance.

The Supreme Court of **Nebraska** has rendered an opinion sustaining what is known as the **reciprocal insurance law.** It is properly a retaliatory law, imposing a tax of 2 per cent. on gross premiums of fire companies located in other States which impose a like tax on Nebraska companies. The State Insurance Company of North America resisted the payment of a tax of $802. One of its contentions was that insurance is interstate commerce. The court sustained judgment against the company. The decision will permit Nebraska to collect $38,000 in insurance taxes.

Having managed successfully for years the insurance department of the **Provident Life and Trust** Company of Philadelphia, **Joseph Ashbrook** was elected to the office of **vice president** and manager of the insurance department at a meeting of the board of directors on Tuesday. The elevation of Mr. Ashbrook to the vice presidency was a special mark of the appreciation of the directors for his thorough and painstaking work for the company. Frederick H. Strawbridge and Joseph Ashbrook were at the same meeting elected members of the board of directors.

Returns of **marine insurance companies** so far received show the following results for the year 1905: The Reliance Marine, Liverpool, pays a total dividend for the year of 12½ per cent., carrying forward to next account a balance of £33,711 7s. 10d. The Ocean Marine makes a total distribution of 20 per cent. on the paid-up capital, carrying forward £59,491 2s. 2d. to credit of profit and loss account. The Sea, of Liverpool, pays 25 per cent. on the paid-up capital of the company, carrying forward a balance of £103,044 5s. 4d. to next account.

The **transfer of the Chicago Underwriters' Association** to the Chicago Board of Underwriters was celebrated by a banquet at the Union League Club in that city on Wednesday night. President Teall was the toastmaster, and addresses were made by ex-President R. W. Hosmer, Manager Glidden, H. J. Furber, Jr., Arthur Hawxhurst, insurance manager for Marshall Field & Co.; P. J. McGregor, of the Queen, and others. Resolutions were adopted in honor of Mr. Hosmer, who served as president of the old board twenty-four years.

When **Robert E. Ward,** general agent of the Equitable Life at Joliet, disappeared several days ago, after having been detected in several forgeries, it was thought that the losses would fall only upon citizens of Joliet whose names he had forged. It is now found, however, that the Equitable Life will also be a heavy loser. Mrs. Ward, who was a partner of his in the general agency and had charge of the office work, was entirely unaware of his wrongdoing, and announces that she will continue the business and pay off every claim, if she is given time.

A number of changes have been effected in the Ohio inspection departments as a result of the decision of the companies to end all connection of agents with the making of rates because of the recent anti-trust prosecutions. The **Cincinnati Rating and Inspection Bureau** has been divorced from the local agents and becomes the private enterprise of Manager Cleveland, the companies buying the rates direct from him instead of through the local agents. A similar arrangement is being made at Cleveland.

The statement of the **Michigan Mutual Life,** which appears in our columns this week, is an exhibit of progress and substantial gains in all departments. During 1905 the assets increased over a half million dollars. Insurance in force increased $4,421,477, and the amount at the close of the year was nearly $50,000,000. The assets were $9,447,807, and the surplus $460,230. The company is doing well under the conservative but active management of President Looker and his official associates.

The investigation by the county attorney's office in Salt Lake City, Utah, into the affairs of the **Continental Life of Utah** was followed by the arrest a few days ago of President Hiram Tyree on a charge of making a false report of the condition of the company. He was released under $5,000 bonds. Secretary Cameron C. Wylie, of the company, was also arrested. Insurance amounting to $6,000,000 has been written by the concern in Utah, Montana, Idaho, Washington and California.

The **Illinois Life of Chicago** has taken the entire fifth floor of the new Majestic Building, one of the finest skyscrapers in Chicago, for the headquarters of its city department under Milton G. Lamb, as manager. The city department has heretofore occupied quarters in the Oriental Building on La Salle street, which is owned by the Illinois Life, but as this is to be demolished before long to make room for a new building, it was thought best to get desirable quarters elsewhere while they were available.

The **fire marshal law,** passed by the **Minnesota** Legislature in 1905, made no provision for the collection of taxes until this year, and the fire marshal has been working without salary. Companies are now being notified that the tax of one-quarter of one per cent. on the net premiums is payable before the first Monday in April. Underwriters claim that the

law is faulty, and will endeavor to secure amendments, making it more useful to the interests that pay the bills.

The recent carnival of crime in Chicago has led to a demand for an increase in saloon licenses as a means for furnishing the necessary funds to increase the police department. The saloon men are resorting to every device to avoid this tax, and are trying to tax other industries, their latest move being a petition to the council for the imposition of a **tax on all insurance agencies in Chicago.** It has been referred to the finance committee.

At New Haven, Conn., on February 1, Patrick O'Neill, who was guardian of his children, Helen C., Edmund B. and Francis J., was sentenced by Judge Silas W. Robinson, of that city, to an indeterminate term of imprisonment of from one to three years for having misappropriated $800 belonging to them. O'Neill's prosecution was brought about through the efforts of the **American Surety Company of New York,** which was his bondsman.

At Jackson, Miss., an indictment has been returned against Mrs. W. C. Stewart, charged with **poisoning her husband** with morphine to enable her **to collect $10,000 insurance** on his life. Through the efforts of other members of the family Stewart's life was saved. Mrs. Stewart is a relative of the judge who empanelled the grand jury which indicted her, and another judge will conduct the trial, which will probably be held next week.

The **Southern States Mutual Life** insurance company of Charleston, W. Va., with a capital of $300,000, all paid in, has been chartered. Officers have been elected as follows: Harrison B. Smith, of Charleston, president; Dr. A. G. Smith, of Brooklyn, N. Y., vice president and general manager; J. D. Baines, of Charleston, treasurer; ex-Governor A. B. White, of Parkersburg, first vice president and superintendent of agencies.

Additions to the Equitable Life property in New York, bounded by Broadway, Cedar, Nassau and Pine streets, are still being made. Title was taken Monday to a small building on a plot at Nos. 23 and 25 Nassau street, also to property at No. 17 Nassau. The first named building was occupied for many years by the banking house of August Belmont & Co., and brought $1,000,000.

In furtherance of the movement for greater independence among the **suburban underwriters of Greater Boston,** a committee comprising Messrs. Herman Bird, A. L. Whittemore, Charles Liffler, A. S. Pevear, C. W. Gould, T. H. Raymond, John Ahearn, E. L. Stone, E. A. Binney and C. U. Capen, has been appointed to confer with the Boston Board and the New England Insurance Exchange.

The **Southern States Mutual Life** insurance company has been incorporated at Charlestown, W. Va., with $200,000 capital and the following incorporators: Governor W. M. O. Dawson, ex-Governor W. A. McCorkle, ex-Senator Henry G. Davis, Congressman Thomas B. Davis, ex-Governor A. B. White, ex-Attorney General C. C. Watts, with other prominent men of West Virginia.

It is now probable that no decision will be reached as to the manager of the **Underwriters' Salvage Company of Chicago,** the new company organization for several weeks. A large number of applications are under consideration, but so many of the directors are out of the city, some of them on the Pacific Coast for a long stay, that nothing will be done until after they return.

The address of President Sylvester C. Dunham, of the Travelers insurance company, in the insurance course at Yale University on **"Investments by Life Insurance Companies"** has been separately printed. On this matter of vital importance to a life insurance company Mr. Dunham has written what is practically a text book in brief of the principles of investments.

The **estimated loss by fire** in the United States and Canada in the **month of January,** according to the compiler of the *Journal of Commerce,* was $17,723,800, as against $16,378,000 in January, 1905, and $21,790,200 in January, 1904. The most important fires of the month were cotton compresses at Jackson, Miss., loss, $750,000; buggy factory and others at Kansas City, Mo., $505,000.

The Colonial Government of **Newfoundland** will introduce in its Legislature at its next sitting, March 4, a bill for the better protection of the interests of policyholders in life insurance companies. The aggregate value of policies in force in the colony is estimated at $7,000,000, the largest proportion of the policies being those of American companies.

The politicians who assembled at the **Amen Corner** in New York on Saturday night listened to a skit on the life insurance investigation, in which one of them personated Grand Inquisitor Hughes in the witness chair. It may have been amusing to the individuals present, but as reported in the morning papers it was a drearily stupid affair.

The chief of the **Chicago fire department** asked for an appropriation of $2,151,000 this year. The comptroller has allowed $1,900,000 in his estimate, which is $125.000 more than the department was allowed to spend last year. The fire department committee of the Chicago board will endeavor to secure a larger appropriation in order to employ more men.

The Missouri Insurance Department has issued an order prohibiting accident insurance companies from permitting **registry or identification companies** or their agents to write accident insurance policies. This has been practiced by some of the accident companies to a considerable extent in the past. The order is to become effective at once.

With the intention of doing business in Washington, Idaho and Oregon, the **Columbia Life and Trust Company** has been incorporated at Portland, Ore., with a paid up capital of $100,000. The Secretary of State has already authorized the company to do business. It is the first life company to be organized under Oregon laws.

Some new **fire extinguishers** installed only the day before in the Lehigh University gymnasium at Bethlehem, Pa., came in handy in subduing a fire in the locker room on February 2. Prof. C. L. Thonburg, of the faculty, by their means extinguished the flames while the Lehigh-State College basketball game was in progress.

A charter has been granted to the **Southern Savings, Life and Accident** insurance company of Norfolk to conduct the business of insurance upon the lives and health of persons, with a maximum capital of $500,000. The officers are: J. B.

Jones, president; George W. Thomas, secretary, and George F. Chinn, treasurer.

The **Northwestern National Fire of Valley City, N. Dak.,** with a capital stock of $100,000, will begin business soon, confining its operations for the present to its home city. When it branches out it may expect opposition from the Northwestern National Fire of Milwaukee, on account of the similarity in names.

The **Peoples Surety Company** of New York announces that it is now transacting a general surety and casualty business at 141 Broadway, New York, Washington Life Building. The company issues all kinds of surety bonds, fidelity, contract, court and official bonds; also liability, plate glass and burglary insurance.

An order for an assessment of $5 on each $100 of insurance to pay judgments secured before it became insolvent has been secured by the **Jefferson Mutual of Pine Bluff, Ark.,** which went into a receiver's hands in 1904. Suit will be instituted unless the assessment is paid in thirty days.

The **Lohmeyer & Goshorn agency at Charleston, W. Va.,** has consolidated with the D. W. Patterson agency as the Lohmeyer-Goshorn-Patterson Agency. It represents over fifty insurance companies, of which forty are fire companies, and has the State agency for seven fire companies.

A committee of **Wakefield, Mass.,** citizens makes serious charges against the **fire department** of that place, alleging, among other things, that "at a time when property was being destroyed by fire and human life endangered members of the department were in an intoxicated condition."

The **Boston Mutual Life** shows an interesting report for December 31, 1905. A gain in premium income during 1905 amounting to 45 per cent. was made; also a 45 per cent. gain in interest receipts, 17 per cent. gain in admitted assets, and 51 per cent. gain in insurance in force.

The **People's Life Assurance Society** is being organized **in Chicago** on the mutual plan. E. A. Nelson, formerly Western superintendent of agents of the Germania Life, is president, and E. A. Marthens, formerly an agent of the Germania, is superintendent of agents.

The address of Vice President Tarbell, of the Equitable Life on **"Modern Life Insurance,"** delivered before the Massachusetts Reform Club, has been printed in pamphlet form for distribution. It attracted attention at the time for its lucid statement of the elementary facts upon which life insurance is founded.

The marine department of the Fireman's Fund, represented in Boston by Messrs. Field & Cowles, will soon proceed to the issuance of **automobile policies,** modeled upon those of the Boston insurance company, in Massachusetts and New England at large.

An **exposition of industrial life insurance** in admirably clear and convincing style, written by President Stephen H. Rhodes, of the John Hancock Mutual Life, has been printed by that company. Lawmakers of the Brackett school should get a copy and read it.

The **Southern of New Orleans** is soon to seek business in new fields. The following officers were elected at the recent meeting: Robert Dickson, president; Albert Godchaux, vice president; Scott McGehee, secretary, and R. D. Tweeddale, assistant secretary.

Admissions.—The United States Annuity and Life insurance company of Chicago has been admitted to do business in Michigan, and the Delaware Fire of Dover and Mechanics and Traders of New Orleans have applied for admission to Minnesota.

"Life Insurance: the Abuses and the Remedies," being **Mr. Louis D. Brandeis'** thoughts about them, as given to the Commercial Club of Boston, has been published by the Policyholders' Protective Committee, of 161 Devonshire street, Boston.

Returning from abroad on the new Cunarder Carmania, Percy Chubb, the marine insurance agent, said that he found out on the way over that **turbine engines** do cause a ship to vibrate after all. The other passengers had not noticed this.

The State Auditor of Nebraska has **refused to eject ten leading fire insurance companies** from the State on the charge made by one Shoemaker that they have formed an illegal compact or trust, and are charging extortionate rates.

The field men in the **Western department of the Phœnix of Hartford** held their annual reunion at Cincinnati last week, with President Skilton and Secretary Milligan present. The meeting closed with a banquet Thursday night.

An investigation of the **conflagration hazard** and fire protection facilities **of Charleston, S. C.,** is now going on under the direction of the engineers of the Committee of Twenty of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

The Rochester German insurance company has produced in a beautiful setting of type and paper a memorial sketch of **Frederick Cook,** its late honored president. A fine artotype of Mr. Cook embellishes the first page.

The **Columbian National Life** insurance company of Boston has increased its capital to $1,000,000, all of which is paid in. The certificate enabling it to do business under this new capitalization was granted on February 2.

The **Trenton, N. J., water commissioners** have decided to spend $100,000 to increase the pumping capacity of the city plant on the Delaware River. A reservoir costing $250,000 has been recently completed.

The question of the legality of **guaranteeing collision indemnity** under marine forms insuring motor vehicles is to be submitted to the consideration of the Attorney General of Massachusetts.

The **Minnesota Mutual Fire** has removed its headquarters from New Ulm, Minn., to St. Paul. The controlling interest in the company has been transferred to St. Paul people.

The capital stock of the **Rochester German** was increased from $200,000 to $500,000 at a stockholders' meeting on Monday last at Rochester, N. Y.

The **National Casualty insurance company** has been organized at Portland, Me.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Armenia of Pittsburgh: Holbrook, Blackwelder & Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Calumet of Chicago: Allen C. Frink, late special of Fireman's Fund in New York State, special agent in Michigan and Indiana.

Delaware Fire of Dover: Stone, Matthews & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

Dubuque Fire and Marine: Newburger & Co., Chicago general agency, formerly held by Letterman & Chamberlain.

Farmers of York: Edgar M. Davis & Co., St. Louis, Mo.

German-American Fire of Baltimore: Secor, Cunningham & Co., Cook County managers.

German of Indiana: W. H. Blick (formerly with the Continental), general agent for Kansas, Colorado and Oklahoma, with headquarters at Topeka.

Hamburg-Bremen: C. B. Koette, of Ottumwa, Ia., special agent.

Hartford Fire: M. L. Hefferman, of Huntsvile, special agent for Alabama.

Jefferson Fire of Philadelphia: Wall & Whittemore, St. Louis, Mo.

John Hancock Mutual Life: Wilbur P. Dayton, Fair Haven, Vt., State agent for Vermont and New Hampshire; Maximilian Stein, Hartford, State agent for Connecticut.

Manhattan Life: Robert J. Jeffs and Fred H. Alden, managers for northern Illinois, except the Chicago territory, under the firm name of Jeffs & Alden. Their headquarters will be in Ottawa. Both were formerly with the New York Life in Chicago.

National Lumber: Campbell, Schenck & Co., of St. Louis, general agents for Missouri.

Northwestern Mutual Life: Charles M. Coleman, formerly of the San Francisco *Examiner*, general agent at Los Angeles, Cal.

Prussian National: C. S. Weeks, special agent at Salt Lake City, in charge of Utah, Montana, Idaho and Washington.

Security Life and Annuity Company: W. N. Stott, late manager at Pittsburgh, Pa., for the State Life of Indianapolis, manager for Western Pennsylvania.

Southern Fire of Lynchburg, Va.: J. Carl Vance, of Clarksburg, State agent for West Virginia.

Southern of New Orleans: Holbrook, Blackwelder & Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Union of Philadelphia: Edward Bliven, special agent for Illinois, Missouri, Iowa and Indiana, with headquarters at Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. McCurdy, according to a Morristown, N. J., dispatch to the *Tribune*, are going to Paris to live and will give up their home in South street in that place. Their servants have been told that their services will not be required after March 1. It is reported that Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Thebaud are also going to take up their abode in Paris, and their place on Madison avenue is for sale. Mr. McCurdy's place is also likely to be put upon the market.

Ex-Insurance Superintendent Webb McNall, of Kansas, is a candidate for the same office on the next Republican State ticket, and admits that he is sure to receive the nomination. His platform is the ejection of insurance companies from Kansas, except assessment concerns in which he is interested.

Mr. Charles A. Crosby, clerk of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters since April 25, 1867, died suddenly Saturday last from a stroke of apoplexy, aged fifty-eight years. He was standing in line waiting to purchase a ticket at a Jersey City theatre when stricken.

Mr. M. J. Grogan, formerly with the London Guarantee Company in its home office in Chicago, took charge February 1 of the Frankfort Marine in Chicago as resident secretary. D. T. Whiting, recently with the Maryland, will be associated with him.

Mr. Thomas R. Fletcher, who has been with the Western department of the Queen for the past six years, for the last two as examiner, has been appointed special agent for Colorado, Wyoming and the Black Hills, with headquarters in Denver.

Mr. Fletcher E. Edmunds, who resigns February 15 as manager of the personal accident department of the Empire State Surety, will be succeeded by H. H. Sutton, late of the Casualty Company of America.

Mr. Edson S. Lott, of the United States Casualty Company, has just returned from a three weeks' Southern trip. In Atlanta the local agent entertained him with a banquet at the Capital City Club.

Mr. Smith Mount, a Red Bank, N. J., insurance agent, committed suicide in his bedroom at the Mansion House, Keesport, February 4, by drinking laudanum. He was thirty-five years old.

Mr. A. J. Harding, for thirty years Western manager of the Springfield Fire and Marine, has been elected a director of the company to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Marshall Field.

Senator Brackett is enjoying a boom for the next Governorship of New York, started by admirers in Saratoga. He will be enthusiastically supported by the Canfield contingent.

Mr. I. Smith Homans has become resident actuary of the Greensboro Life insurance company, located at Greensboro, N. C. He removed there from Cincinnati on February 1.

Mr. Michael Clifford, special agent at Stevens Point, Wis., for the National Life of the U. S. A., died there February 3 of heart disease. He was sixty-eight years old.

Judge L. W. Collins tendered his resignation on Thursday as president of the Northwestern National Life insurance company of Minneapolis. A meeting of the directors has been called for Monday, and it is expected a new head will then be elected.

Mr. Richmond Davis, a Sacramento, Cal., underwriter, died January 24, after illness following an operation. He was eighty-one years old.

Mr. N. Z. Snell has retired as president of the Security Mutual Life of Lincoln, Neb., and is succeeded by W. A. Lindlay.

Col. John W. Vrooman has been elected secretary of the Provident Savings Life, succeeding W. E. Stevens, resigned.

Mr. John Callahan, of Rieger, Callahan & Adkins, local agents at Kansas City, Mo., died February 4.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

DES MOINES, Ia., February 1.—Mr. Sankey today introduced House Bill No. 168, to prevent insurance companies from insuring any property for a greater sum than its actual value, providing a penalty for violation thereof.

Massachusetts.

A new building law for Boston, a legacy from the Legislature of 1905, was the subject of a report to the Committee on Mercantile Affairs last Wednesday. Assistant Corporation Counsel Childs, of Boston, who is making a redraft of the original law proposed by last year's building commission at the request of Mayor Fitzgerald, said that the bill he was making would probably require the repeal of the law relative to the height of buildings, the division of the city into sections A and B, and also of the present theatre inspection law.

The Committee on Mercantile Affairs reported two bills to the House, Wednesday, to amend the laws regulating theatres. One of these bills provides that the theatre law passed two years ago shall not apply to theatres erected before the passage of that act. The other bill exempts from the operations of that law any building owned by a city or town, or by literary, religious and other societies, and used as a place for public gatherings.

The Senate on Wednesday, under suspension of the rules, passed to be engrossed a bill to provide for a commission to recodify the insurance laws of the Commonwealth. As drawn, it is distinctly at variance with the wishes of the Insurance Commissioner, to whose initiative is due the proposition in Governor Guild's inaugural that there should be a recodification of the insurance laws of the Commonwealth. What Insurance Commissioner Cutting hoped for was a thorough revision of the insurance laws by an unbiased commission, which should report later in the session. But so jealous of its prerogatives did the commissioner find the Joint Legislative Committee on Insurance that it may not be possible that he will get exactly what he considers most desirable to the Commonwealth.

Mississippi.

JACKSON, Miss., February 3.—House Bill No. 215, introduced by Mr. Doty, provides that the qualified policyholders, resident in this State, of any foreign life insurance company doing business in Mississippi, be authorized and empowered to meet, either in person or by proxy, at some place within the State and elect some suitable and competent person, who shall be a citizen of this State, as a director of such life insurance company, to represent the interest of the policyholders in this State in the control and management of such life insurance company; provided that policyholders representing bona fide life insurance in such company of not less than 10 per cent. of the total life insurance carried

or in force in this State by such company shall vote in such meeting for such director.

New Jersey.

Senate Bill No. 94, by Mr. Johnson, amends Section 70 of the insurance act relating to statements required from insurance companies by providing that such statements shall include a declaration under oath that the bonds, stocks, mortgages, trust deeds and other securities reported are owned absolutely by and in the possession of the company making the statement.

The House on Monday passed a resolution to purchase 1,000 copies of the testimony of the Prudential insurance company before the New York Legislative Investigating Committee; also ten copies of the full report for the use of the New Jersey investigating committee when it is appointed. There was a hot debate over a hasty passing of the resolution.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 9.—The present week, from an insurance viewpoint, has been the dullest in the Legislature since the session began. Not a single insurance measure has been introduced, not one reported from committee, and no discussion relative to insurance in any phase has taken place in either branch of the Legislature. It is understood that the investigation committee will not be ready to report until February 19.

Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, February 2.—Senate Bill No. 91, introduced by Mr. Arbenz, prohibits the coinsurance clause.

Pennsylvania.

HARRISBURG, Pa., February 8.—As a result of the recent exposures of graft in the Pennsylvania Insurance Department, the State Senate today adopted the bill already approved in the House, abolishing the fees of the Insurance Commissioner and putting him on a $6,000 salary. The bill now goes to the Governor for his signature.

Rhode Island.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., February 3.—Mr. Rattey has introduced the following in the House:

Resolved, That a joint committee of five, three from the House of Representatives and two from the Senate, be appointed with power to send for persons and papers to inquire into the condition of our insurance and trust companies, and ascertain whether or not any money belonging to said companies has within the past ten years been appropriated to any political committee to help carry on a political campaign or for any other purpose, and, if so, to whom and by whom contributed, said joint committee to report on or before March 30, 1906.

Miscellany.

Report of the Fowler Committee of the New York Life on the Hamilton Payments.

The Fowler investigating committee of the New York Life made its first report to the trustees on Thursday. The report is a special one, preliminary to the reports that are to be made on other phases of past management of the New York Life. It says that a grand total of $1,347,382.41 of the company's money went into or through the hands of Andrew Hamilton from the beginning of his service in 1892 down to the end of 1905. Of this $235,000 has been repaid by Mr. McCall, and $37,607.61 belongs legitimately to Mr. Hamilton for legal services. This leaves $1,074,774.80 to be accounted for, and possibly to be the object of recovery suits against Mr. McCall and Mr. Hamilton. The following puts in tabular form the Hamilton account with the company:

HAMILTON MONEY ON COMPANY'S BOOKS—1892-1905.	
Services	$126,281.00
Personal disbursements	8,654.15
Miscellaneous Expenses—	
Home office accounts	38,500.00
Branch office accounts	569,750.00
Total	$743,185.15

HAMILTON MONEY NOT ON COMPANY'S BOOKS.	
December, 1903-January, 1904—Paid back by John A. McCall.	$235,000.00
June 8, 1904—Check for tax payments deposited to Hamilton's account	75,000.00
June 16, 1905—New York Life refund in tax cases assigned to other companies—Hamilton got it	90,386.47
1900-1903—Sundry payments made through Paris office	144,500.00
October, 1902—Note to J. P. Morgan & Co. paid out of United States Steel syndicate profits	59,310.79
Total	$604,197.26

HOW THE MONEY CAN BE ACCOUNTED FOR.	
Hamilton personally held accountable for	$795,964.01
McCall and Hamilton held accountable for	219,500.00
McCall and Perkins held accountable for	59,310.79
Amount to be accounted for	$1,074,774.80
McCall repaid	235,000.00
Hamilton's salary, 1892-95, not contested	37,607.61
Grand total Hamilton expenses	$1,347,382.41

The following is a summary of the recommendations of the committee:

1. That an accounting be sought by legal means from Hamilton for all money received by his bureau of taxation as shown on the books from 1896 to 1905 inclusive. These aggregate $705,577.54, and the committee bases its claim on the fact that no system of vouchers was employed that could possibly be considered adequate.

2. That Mr. McCall's liability be recognized for all of the $235,000 loan account, which he paid when he resigned.

3. That Hamilton and McCall be held liable for a $75,000 check for payment of State taxes sent to the former on June 8, 1904, and deposited to his own account. The committee remarks that there was no reason for making the check payable to Hamilton and not to the State Comptroller, and that the evidence appears to show that it was used for his private purpose.

4. That the company is not bound by President McCall's agreement to pay Hamilton one-third of the amount recovered under the decision that the tax on policies was not retroactive, and that Hamilton is liable for this money, $90,386.47.

5. That Hamilton and McCall are liable jointly for payments of $144,500 traced through the Paris office accounts of the company between 1900 and 1903. These constitute an entirely new set of Hamilton payments, the remittances having been made from Paris to this side, in part to Hamilton personally and in part to McCall when in London for Hamilton's account. The committee has been unable to discover their purpose, and they are the only Hamilton payments contained in the present report which were not brought out before the Armstrong Committee by Charles E. Hughes.

6. The committee finds that the notes of Hamilton and E. E. McCall to the Central National Bank and to the New York Security and Trust Company transferred to J. P. Morgan & Co. in 1901 and paid by $59,310.79 of the profits on the New York Life's participation in the United States Steel syndicate in 1902, were, on the best evidence it can obtain, discounted by Hamilton for his own purposes. The company, the committee finds, was a stranger to the transaction and under no obligation to pay the notes. Therefore McCall is held accountable for this amount, and the committee holds that the question whether George W. Perkins is not also legally liable should be submitted for legal adjudication.

The committee says pointedly that it received in making its investigation "the loyal and efficient aid of the officers of the company." The following is the conclusion of the report:

The presentation of bills by Hamilton, who was in the service of the company at a fixed annual compensation, for service rendered in real estate and mortgage matters and foreclosure cases during 1903, 1904 and 1905, coupled with the additional fact that during these years he received for himself the costs and allowances in other foreclosure actions which were paid out of the proceeds of the sale of the property when the company was not the purchaser, and the fact that he acted for the company in

closing during the same period mortgage loans to the amount of over $2,000,000, for which he doubtless received large compensation from the borrowers, suggests the recommendation that all such matters should be within the province of the law department of the company, and not the occasion for special charges and fees.

The report is signed by all the members of the committee, Thomas P. Fowler, chairman; Norman B. Ream, Augustus G. Paine, Hiram R. Steele and Clarence H. Mackay. No business was transacted at Thursday's meeting of the New York Life trustees other than the adoption of the report and its recommendations.

The Chicago Insurance Convention.

The action of the convention of governors, attorneys general and insurance commissioners at Chicago on the second and final day's session (Friday, February 2) was as follows:

The committee on resolutions made the following report:

Mr. Chairman—Your committee on resolutions has considered the matters referred to it and begs leave to report as follows:

First—We believe that the system commonly known as the deferred dividend plan, which consists in deferring all dividends to the end of a period named and of forfeiting the shares of the surplus justly belonging to those policyholders who either lapse or die before the end of the period, is unsound in principle, unjust in its operation, and such legislation should be enacted as will remove the evils of this system. With respect to policies of that character already issued there should be required from this time forward an annual statement and provisional apportionment of surplus to each policyholder, and the aggregate so apportioned to such policyholders should be charged as a liability of the company. With respect to all future policies there should be an annual accounting of the surplus, an apportionment, to begin at a proper time after the issuance of the policy, to each policyholder of his share of the entire surplus of the preceding year after reserving a reasonable margin of safety, and an option on the part of the policyholder to withdraw his share in money. Other options relating to the purchase of additional insurance may be included.

Second—With respect to the representative form of government of mutual insurance companies we have carefully reflected upon all the plans that have been proposed. We recognize the difficulty in accomplishing the much desired result. We are impressed with the necessity of a change in the present methods, and we suggest for consideration by the committee the adoption of some plan whereby there will be in each mutual company a division of jurisdiction with the right of the policyholders of each jurisdiction to select a representative or representatives to attend the annual meeting of policyholders; the details of such plan to be devised so as to bring as nearly as possible to each policyholder the convenience and practicability of exercising his right to a voice in the management of his company.

Third—With respect to publicity, we believe that the existing laws of many States are sufficient to authorize the departments of insurance to call for whatever information is desired. The remaining States should confer upon their insurance departments like powers.

Fourth—With respect to investments we believe that while all investments should be conservative and exclude speculative properties, it is impractical to attempt uniformity among the States. Each State must necessarily determine the question with reference to its own peculiar conditions.

Fifth—With respect to standard forms of insurance contracts, we believe that the statutes of the several States should prescribe the forms of life insurance policies, and that no other forms than those so prescribed should be permitted. Uniformity upon this subject is in the highest degree desirable, and an earnest effort should be made to secure that result. In preparing these forms the extreme of care should be exercised in order that they may embrace every legitimate contract of insurance and do no injustice to any class of companies.

Sixth—Respecting the several other subjects enumerated by this conference for discussion and referred to this committee, we believe that this conference should not now finally declare its convictions, but that the committee of fifteen should further carefully investigate and consider the same in formulating the proposed regulation of life insurance companies.

The report was adopted on a vote of States by 23 to 6, as follows:

Ayes, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming, Hawaii.

Nays, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, South Dakota and North Dakota.

Representatives of some of the States voting in the negative explained that they approved of some features of the report, but not all of them.

A committee of sixteen was appointed, with power to enlarge its membership, and instructed to prepare a report on all the matters which had come before the convention and submit it to a meeting to be held at the same time as the next annual meeting of the State Insurance Commissioners' Association, which will be held at Washington, D. C., probably in September.

This committee is composed as follows: Thomas D. O'Brien, of Minnesota, chairman; E. M. Wolf, of California, secretary; Zeno M. Host, of Wisconsin; B. F. Carroll, of Iowa; John L. Pierce, of Nebraska; H. R. Prewitt, of Kentucky; Reau E. Folk, of Tennessee; Thomas E. Drake, of the District of Columbia; W. D. Vandiver, of Missouri; A. I. Vorys, of Ohio; B. F. Crouse, of Maryland, and George H. Adams, of New Hampshire; Attorneys General E. T. Young, of Minnesota; J. M. Mayer, of New York; John E. Bird, of Michigan, and F. A. Nash, Massachusetts.

To these are added as advisory members Governors Johnson, of Minnesota; Beckham, of Kentucky; Elrod, of South Dakota; Searles, of North Dakota; Davidson, of Wisconsin, and Cummins, of Iowa, and the members of the insurance committee of the United States Commission on Uniform Laws, who are: Amasa M. Eaton, of Rhode Island; C. F. Libby, of Maine; L. D. Brandils, of Massachusetts; C. La Rue Munson, of Pennsylvania; Talcott H. Russell, of Connecticut; Robert W. Williams, of Florida; John L. Webster, of California, and John C. Richberg, of Illinois.

A British View of the American Life Insurance Situation —Danger to the Companies of Losing Their European Business.

(*London Correspondence of the Chicago Daily News.*)

One of the most prominent life insurance managers in London has supplied the *Daily News* with the following estimate and criticism of American life insurance companies and their methods. He declines to permit the use of his name, which is known to all life insurance managers on the two continents. Though an extremely busy man he has consented to prepare this article at the correspondent's request on account of what he termed "the urgency of the matter from the point of view of the public." This veteran life insurance man says:

The proceedings of the Legislative Investigation Committee—a body which is similar to what we would here call a royal commission—have been watched with the keenest interest and anxiety, not only by the thousands of policyholders interested in the companies whose methods are being examined, but by the thinking communities in all countries where life insurance is known; and the revelations have aroused widespread anxiety, not as to the stability of the larger companies whose managers have been examined, but as to the nature of the methods employed and the moral character of the actions of more than one of the managers.

Life insurance companies throughout the world naturally fall into three classes—the aggressive, the mildly progressive and the stationary. The first class is made up principally of American, Australian and Canadian companies, and among these the first named are the most conspicuous. Therefore anything which concerns them is of special interest to the world at large, seeing that they have carried their campaign into all civilized countries and under all flags.

AMERICAN COMPANIES AGGRESSIVE.

American companies have especially been criticised for their highly organized and developed aggressiveness, but there is no question that they are entitled to immense credit for their activity, for they have been the means of forcing men, so to speak, to do their duty, and thus many thousands of families have been

saved from a loss which they otherwise most certainly would have incurred. In this direction both the Continental companies and those of this country have not appreciated the great importance of the work in which they are engaged; in other words, they have not made life insurance the active, militant force they should have to be worthy of the great work in which they are engaged. They have not realized the great effect for good it has upon the social problems of the day, and in this respect the sooner other companies take a lesson from the "Big Three," and taught by their experience what pitfalls of administration to avoid, the better it will be for the people among whom they practice.

The great danger of this feeling of distrust is that it may exhibit itself in active measures taken by bodies of policyholders in the various countries—measures which theoretically are sound, but practically are more than likely to entail a loss unless very carefully digested and temperately carried out. The danger, too, is enhanced by the operations of a horde of persons whose one object is to make a commission, and who, therefore, use all their influence to further inflame the mind of policyholders in the hope of inducing them to leave the companies in which they are insured and reinsure in some other company which they represent.

It is needless to say that the action of the English life companies, and no doubt those of other countries, has been throughout this trying experience most correct, but it is not possible for them to always control the actions of their representatives, many of whom take advantage of the situation for their own ends. But if the situation is serious today it is not more so than the outlook for the future of these companies which have been so severely criticised, and in some respects justly—in some respects only. because, unlike the custom here, the hearings before this commission were conducted with open doors, and thus enabled people of all classes to attend, and often having heard some interesting point, they would formulate and publish their opinions on the subject without waiting to hear the whole story, and thus the companies have been subjected perhaps to more odium than they deserve.

DANGER FOR THE FUTURE.

The danger for the future lies in two directions: first, the loss of confidence which has occurred, and second, in the measures which the companies may themselves take to correct the abuses. Loss of confidence is a thing that is slowly repaired, but it can be again deserved. When it comes to the methods to be adopted in order to obtain this result, there is always the possibility that under pressure of uninformed public opinion those in charge of this great interest may strive to effect economies beginning at the wrong end, replacing managers whose services may have been dispensed with by men not qualified to carry on the work, and only chosen for their social, political or financial reputation, and possibly without the peculiar ability and practical knowledge necessary to serve the interests of the policyholders and re-establish the reputation of the companies.

Any mistake along these lines would be fatal. The companies most prominent are among the grandest, and thus far the safest, and, on the whole, best conducted institutions in the world. The amount of good they have done, are doing, and, properly handled, must continue to do in an increasing measure, is beyond conception. Therefore, the first step to be taken is to secure men to fill the chief offices who have an established reputation in more than one country. The chief managers, or presidents, as they are termed in the United States, should be men whose characters will bear the closest research—men who are not tangled up as directors and officials in other concerns. To be head of one of those large companies is sufficient for any man, and it never has been found yet that he could help his company by becoming affiliated with others. On the contrary, such a custom has been productive of gross abuses. This has been proved over and over again in this investigation. He certainly should not have the autocratic power which has heretofore been in his hands; but all his acts of administration should be subjected to the judgment of the necessary committees, whose minutes again should be approved by the board. That is the custom which is generally followed by life insurance companies in this country, with the result that scandals here have been few and far between; certainly nothing of any gravity in this direction has occurred for many years in connection with English companies.

PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED.

While, then, the president himself need not necessarily be a man who has had actual practical knowledge of the details of the work, undoubtedly his chief assistants should be. His agency director should be a man who has grown up from the ranks, and who has had practical personal experience at home as well as in countries outside his own. If this is not possible, then there should be additional assistants who between them can enable the board to realize the varying conditions under which business, to be successful, must be conducted in different parts of the world. The next assistant, of course, must be a practical actuary, one who has got business as well as purely mathematical ability. Then there must be the comptroller's department and the finance department. Under these four principal assistants all the others would be classified.

In the case of three American companies some changes have already been made, and the places of the officials who retired have been filled by men who no doubt are good men, but in no case have they apparently had the least practical experience of the business, and whatever they do must therefore be done under the guidance of those who know more than they do. This means that acts can be committed which will be detrimental to the welfare of the policyholders while the real instigators of these acts escape all responsibility. Such changes as these will not restore the confidence of policyholders in this country, and we doubt in America or elsewhere.

PAY OF AGENTS.

Then in effecting economies under pressure of public opinion it would be a great mistake to begin with the agents; that is, the men who actually bring in the business. It has been stated as a fact that the agents of life insurance companies are in receipt of enormous commissions, and there has been a public demand that these men should be less highly paid. According to the evidence these enormous commissions have been paid in some favored cases, but the average agent of a life insurance company is probably one of the poorest paid men in the world, considering the harassing, continuous and thankless labor in which he is engaged, and the very men who ought to thank him for his persistence in inducing them to do what they ought to do willingly —but never will—are the men who have the lowest opinion of him.

Let us see what is this enormous commission that the agent gets. Having been for years a keen observer of the practices of many companies, so far as could be seen from the outside, and taking a great interest in the work, more or less information has been gained. The common practice in this and some other countries has been to pay the agent 1 or 2 per cent. upon the amount of insurance, and on every premium paid afterward a collection commission. The practice of American companies and some others is to pay a percentage on the first year's premiums, this percentage differing according to the class of insurance called for —we do not know but that this may be a more scientific method than the other—and in addition to this they pay a small commission for a short term of years in some cases, but not in all.

Now, no doubt it would seem a piece of extravagance to a man insuring his life if he were told that out of a £100 premium he pays the company the agent was given, we will say, £50. He does not stop to think that he has entered into a contract with the company to pay that £100 a year for perhaps twenty years (should he live so long), which means that before his policy is finished he has paid the company £2,000. The agent's commission on the whole transaction is £50, which is 2½ per cent. This surely cannot be considered extravagant. Many transactions, especially small ones, are chargeable by trade custom, with twice, three times and four times that commission every time a payment is made.

Insurance agents in the majority of instances find their business fluctuates more or less, and it has been the custom of many companies to pay their men a small guaranty against the commissions they make. This plan, of course, demands care and practical knowledge of human nature to be economically worked, but the plan has been worked successfully and always can be, provided the right men are selected to handle it; otherwise it is almost sure to result in a loss. I am now referring to conditions as they exist outside of the United States. There it is said that insurance agents, as a rule, work purely on commissions and require no assistance. The evidence given certainly does not bear this statement out, as large sums appear to have been invested in what they there call "advances," and being practically irrecoverable the various government insurance departments will not accept the item as an asset.

STANDARDIZING NOT POSSIBLE.

But there has been an effort made in recent years on the part of American companies to more or less standardize their methods of business in the various countries. Beyond the broad line of securing the best results in the most economical and legitimate way, this is an impossible task. You might as well attempt to standardize the food, clothing, the customs of people in different countries, and it is the knowledge of this fact that has made Great Britain the magnificent colonial power that she is. The essentials of government are the same everywhere, but the details

(*Continued on page* 110.)

Fire Insurance Business in Connecticut in 1905.

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Stock Companies of Connecticut.			
Ætna, Hartford	$17,678,150	$163,399	$44,328
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	5,932,600	65,852	26,133
Hartford Fire, Hartford	15,598,144	176,916	43,946
National Fire, Hartford	11,691,175	104,643	32,868
Orient, Hartford	4,929,135	32,941	13,266
Phœnix, Hartford	10,864,474	98,610	38,929
Security, New Haven	7,597,542	68,367	12,347
Total	$74,201,220	$710,728	$211,817
Mutual Companies of Connecticut.			
Danbury, Danbury	$417,127	$2,553	$2,401
Farmers, Suffield	31,450	173	21
Farmington Valley, Farmington	24,275	253	.....
Greenwich, Greenwich	38,840	259	28
Guilford, Guilford	20,850	387	.....
Harwinton, Harwinton	49,835	2,143	1,932
Hartford County, Hartford	10,853.496	76,822	43,406
Litchfield, Litchfield	1,859,618	10,398	11,713
Madison, Madison	143,675	871	105
Middlesex, Middletown	15,329,814	122,525	60,635
Mutual, Norwich	158,165	396	40
New London County, Norwich	6,455,714	56,480	30,753
Patrons Mutual, Hartford	722,069	6,277	7,294
Rockville, Rockville	139,250	1,081	668
Washington, Washington	158,371	861	512
Windham County	1,205,300	12,714	10,401
Total	$37,597,849	$294,194	$170,109
Stock Companies, Other States.			
Agricultural, Watertown	$2,751.300	$22,136	$6,640
Albany, Albany	917,604	9,975	7,413
Alliance, Philadelphia	2,163,978	22,830	3,803
American, Boston	1,815,163	18,761	4,330
American, Newark	2,862,762	29,562	12,583
American, Philadelphia	3,641,201	32,973	11,184
American Central, St. Louis	4,403,799	50,763	14,362
Assurance Co. of America, St. Louis	995,219	10,249	2,355
Boston, Boston	4,237,815	48,606	24,080
British American, New York	305,260	3,369	2,040
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	761,494	8,273	4,164
Buffalo German, Buffalo	1,799,312	18,636	7,950
Caledonian American, New York	605,690	7,271	4,922
Camden, Camden, N. J.	1,426,440	16,871	6,805
Capital Fire, Concord	569,149	7,592	5,024
Citizens, St. Louis	1,099.465	13,886	8,618
City of New York, New York	235,382	2,497	250
Colonial, New York	1,100,677	13,453	5,849
Columbia, Jersey City	116,895	2,398	2,485
Commerce, Albany	527,702	5,347	1,640
Commercial Union, New York	994,177	11,599	1,236
Concordia, Milwaukee	735,571	9,583	1,646
Continental, New York	7,063,531	80,687	22,852
Delaware, Philadelphia	1,321,827	15,507	3,241
Detroit Fire and Marine	511,125	5,148	.....
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	2,014,803	25,919	12,022
Eagle Fire, New York	1,433,704	15,967	2,852
Equitable Fire and Marine, Providence	2,416,007	23,003	8,978
Federal, Jersey City	680,365	5,352	2,667
Fire Association of Philadelphia	4,869,726	51,807	32,368
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	3,578,349	35,628	13,325
Firemens, Newark	2,598,534	24,657	5,439
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	1,164,052	13,051	.....
German, Freeport	3,907,362	37,320	14,312
German Alliance, New York	2,451,277	28,578	5,767
German American, New York	6,039,571	59,187	15,077
Germania Fire, New York	5,899,773	61,399	22,814
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	1,227,480	12,609	3,193
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	2,332,699	23,343	4,585
Globe and Rutgers, New York	1,692,224	23,045	6,315
Granite State, Portsmouth	1,448,159	13,660	5,754
Hanover Fire, New York	3,730,505	36,649	16,048
Home, New York	10,355,179	94,044	32,501
Home Fire & Marine, San Francisco	956,794	10,298	6,672
Indemnity, New York	569,792	6,042	4,293
Indianapolis, Indianapolis	197,329	2,200	1,608
Insurance Company North America	17,491,867	207,312	58,021
Mechanics and Traders, New Orleans	812,665	8,509	1,782
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	1,637,562	19,572	5,604
Michigan Fire and Marine, Detroit	532,082	6,168	2,548
Milwaukee Mechanics	1,601,105	14,752	4,721
Nassau Fire, New York	976,666	11,269	4,498
National Union, Pittsburgh	1,477,190	16,658	5,266
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	4,010,581	42,214	16,369
New York Fire, New York	683,471	6,811	1,712
Newark, Newark	255,450	3,045	178
Niagara Fire, New York	3,446,714	39,787	15,144
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	462,443	3,318	134
North German, New York	243,114	3,579	625
North River, New York	1,878,196	23,071	8,794
Northern, New York	997,170	9,636	2,492
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	2,339,550	17,596	4,434
Pelican, New York	242,712	2,904	1,066
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	3,632,301	43,379	14,333
Phenix, Brooklyn	4,355,953	40,489	12,596
Providence-Washington, Providence	5,163,175	48,088	24,311
Queen, New York	3,284,318	34,147	21,562
Reliance, Philadelphia	1,524,761	12,665	2,823
Rochester German, Rochester	1,626,634	20,094	11,423
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	1,689,866	16,189	12,334
Security Fire, Baltimore	391,425	2,727	918
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	$2,256,400	$27,511	$12,497
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	4,830,363	54,840	22,158
Star Fire, Louisville	96,283	3,391	2,759
Teutonia, New Orleans	2,578,575	20,795	12,436
Traders, Chicago	2,145,887	22,740	7,470
Union, Philadelphia	1,202,341	11,598	2,266
United Firemen, Philadelphia	1,473,948	17,420	9,097
United States Fire, New York	2,010,187	20,184	9,884
Westchester Fire, New York	6,808,048	76,962	19,769
Western, Pittsburgh	972,295	9,076	3,123
Williamsburgh City, New York	4,220,413	43,873	11,393
Total	$191,877,933	$2,044,096	$$727,602
Mutuals of Other States.			
Fitchburg, Fitchburg	$875,031	$11,328	$3,448
Holyoke, Salem	1,001,752	13,382	2,617
Merchants and Farmers, Worcester	928,314	11,283	5,024
Providence, Providence	733,108	6,271	1,702
Quincy, Quincy	477,162	6,034	1,110
Traders and Mechanics, Lowell	1,061,002	14,811	1,450
Total	$5,076,369	$$63,009	$15,351
Companies of Foreign Countries.			
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$2,076,326	$24,459	$14,632
Atlas, London	1,391,875	15,022	4,688
British America, Toronto	1,014,652	12,032	7,352
Caledonian, Edinburgh	4,514,493	55,945	21,086
Cologne, Cologne	2,487,829	16,988	3,980
Commercial Union, London	4,762,754	45,692	8,321
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	2,142,202	24,445	5,509
Law Union and Crown, London	397,941	2,833	154
Liverpool and London and Globe	7,820,866	87,025	34,962
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	3,652,931	35,104	9,573
London Assurance Corporation	2,668,304	29,100	13,212
North British and Mercantile	5,280,701	46,919	11,305
Northern, London	5,742,097	44,712	17.416
Norwich Union, Norwich	3,745,551	37,193	11,695
Palatine, London	1,548,990	15,567	3,324
Phœnix, London	2,689,300	27,541	7,190
Prussian National, Stettin	1,551,565	14,616	5,679
Royal, Liverpool	16,189,144	137,335	55,658
Royal Exchange, London	2,870,393	32,249	27,305
Scottish Union and National	4,109,932	39,599	12,293
State, Liverpool	191,671	945	54
Sun, London	3,032,480	36,409	11,728
Svea, Gothenburg	1,033,034	11,652	3,734
Union, London	1,287,025	9,942	3,584
Western, Toronto	2,705,397	21,736	5,819
Total	$84,907,453	$793,471	$300,252
Grand Totals, 1905	$393,660,824	$3,905,498	$1,425,131
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$360,670,389	$3,598,558	*$1,496,323
1903	350,394,121	3,454,996	1,198,886
1902	351,065,348	3,402,083	2,427,979
1901	345,155,720	2,954,536	1,385,411
1900	335,555,452	2,854,194	1,395,221
1899	324,652,451	2,801,779	1,372,539
1898	319,938,839	2,710,075	1,262,956
1897	331,454,556	2,730,744	1,105,552
1896	307,539,659	2,717,368	1,376,923
1895	282,000,771	2,586,528	1,241,877
1894	221,828,297	2,171,851	927,191
1893	230,354,580	2,141,835	1,014,102
1892	326.683,733	2,055,054	1,040,298
1891	195,234,620	1,839,174	705,628
1890	180,562,237	1,831,195	808,533
1880 to 1889 inclusive	1,562,028,513	15,647,849	7,764,574

* Losses paid are given in the business of previous years, 1880 to 1904, inclusive.

The percentage of losses to premiums in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 46.9. The percentage in 1905 was 36.4.

(*Continued from page* 109.)

are adapted to the different countries over which she exercises her sway.

If, then, the American companies seek to economize the practice of their business, they must withdraw from this attempt to standardize on details, and they must encourage their agents to do a legitimate business to at any rate offset the withdrawals and death claims which occur in the business, or else they will find that while their business is falling rapidly, the result of their action will not produce the economy aimed at, and they will be confronted with a steadily rising death rate and lapse ratio—the latter owing to the fact that by cutting off their representatives in the field, they get out of touch with the people, and no one should be kept closer in touch with his company than a member of a life insurance concern. This is only practicable by having a well organized body of respectable representatives, paid according to the value of the results they achieve, and not a penny more.

Where there is room for economy in these companies would appear to an outsider to lie in curtailing the larger salaries that

are paid at the head offices, as has been done in one or two cases, and in limiting the supervising force which they have been putting in the field, with the consequence that captains are cheap, or should be, but privates are scarce and therefore dear.

SUGGESTIONS FOR REFORM.

Reviewing the whole situation as it is today, the position is serious, but its gravity would largely and more quickly disappear if measures were taken at once without waiting for further force to be used, somewhat on the lines suggested, to make the policyholders feel:

1. That their interests were committed to the hands of men of whom they knew nothing, men who are practical insurance managers, and who have proved by their service that they possess the qualities which entitle them to the respect and confidence of those with whom they are connected and with whom they act.

2. That the autocratic powers heretofore exercised by the chief officers of these companies should be at once curbed, and that no investment should be made without the full consent of the finance committee, approved by the board—no radical changes in the agency work, actuarial work, medical work, comptroller's or financial departments, or personnel of the office, introduced and carried through without full consultation of the committee of directors in charge of that particular branch, and approved by the board.

3. That the mere fact of relationship to a prominent official should not be deemed of any value whatever in securing a position.

4. That no officials of the company should be members of the board of directors, except the president, and he ex-officio, but he should not be a director of other concerns. It is sufficient that the trustees or directors have that privilege, to which they are entitled, as their business is their own, and they only give their advisory and controlling powers as a body in handling the great trust confided to their care.

5. That the statements made to the public should be promptly published, and these statements should give full particulars of all the investments in such a shape that everyone could identify and have each security valued.

Mingling among many classes of people, all interested in the subject, convinces us of the general truth of what has been written, and also that unless action is taken very promptly the American companies may say good-by to the large and valuable business which they have secured in other countries.

A Useful Organization.

A large attendance marked the annual meeting on Friday of last week, at its headquarters in Boston, of the New England Bureau of United Inspection, an organization which for the past eighteen years has been successfully assisting manufacturers and property owners throughout New England in maintaining their fire protection in the best possible condition.

From the annual report of Chairman James H. Leighton it appears that during last year the Connecticut, Granite State, Glens Falls and City of New York fire insurance companies were added to, and the Kings County, Greenwich and National Standard retired from membership in the bureau. A great number of special reports were issued, sixteen of them upon the water supply systems of various cities and towns. Improvements to the number of 6,842 have been made, and many more are in process. The survey work has been bettered so successfully that continuance of the new method is recommended. The total number of improvements made by the bureau since its organization is 93,606. Tests of apparatus to the number of 4,545 were made in 1905, and since organization a total of 47,071.

The treasurer's report showed receipts last year aggregating $88,043, disbursements to the amount of $55,741, leaving a balance on hand of $32,302.

Consolidation with other organizations has been considered at several meetings, and a general willingness expressed on the part of the bureau to do everything to bring it about on economical and wise lines.

The governing committee elected for the current year comprises the following companies: Ætna, Aachen and Munich, Agricultural, Commercial Union, Continental, Connecticut Fire, Delaware, Equitable Fire and Marine, Fireman's Fund, Hamburg-Bremen, Hanover Fire, Hartford Fire, Home, Insurance Company of North America, Liverpool and London and Globe, London and Lancashire, London Assurance Corporation, Niagara Fire, Northern, Pennsylvania Fire, Phœnix, Providence-Washington, Sun, Westchester and Western.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Chairman of the governing committee, E. C. Brush; vice chairman, Walter Adlard; treasurer, Frederick B. Carpenter; secretary, R. Walter Hilliard. The executive committee selected comprises Edward C. Brush, C. H. Rice, Walter Adlard, S. G. Howe and A. K. Simpson, and the finance committee is composed of Edward C. Brush, A. K. Simpson and Frederick B. Carpenter.

The Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation

(LIMITED),

OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

Total Available Resources, $6,816,020.00

$1,971,756.98 deposited in the United States for the benefit of United States Policyholders.

SAMUEL APPLETON, United States Manager,
Employers' Liability Building, 33 Broad Street, Boston, Mass.

EDMUND DWIGHT,
Resident Manager for New York State,
76 William Street, New York.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO., INCORPORATED 1833.

FIRE AND MARINE. Head Office: TORONTO, CANADA.

UNITED STATES BRANCH.

JANUARY 1, 1906

Assets	$1,542,949.10
Liabilities	1,046,546.17
Net Surplus	$496,402.93

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1905

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance. The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy. Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

CHARLES F. MITCHELL,

INSURANCE,

56-58 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

Manager Eastern Department, Metropolitan Department

STAR FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

LOUISVILLE, KY.

Correspondence with Agents and Brokers solicited.

Pacific-Conservative Life Insurance Company

OF CALIFORNIA

WILBUR S. TUPPER, President

Leading Companies in California in 1905

New Business Written From Official Reports.
Exclusive of Industrial Insurance.

COMPANY.	AMOUNT.	PREMIUM.
*PACIFIC-CONSERVATIVE	**$10,550,735**	**$464,139.00**
New York Life	6,740,291	276,618.00
Equitable	3,148,930	121,163.00
Northwestern Mutual	3,020,300	109,797.00
Mutual Life	2,800,535	118,064.00
Metropolitan	2,287,911	78,457.00
The Penn Mutual	1,601,830	75,774.00
Mutual Benefit	1,478,550	63,401.00
Ætna	1,429,050	60,284.00
Union Central	1,406,345	36,828.00
State Life	1,276,345	35,878.00
Provident Life and Trust	1,129,665	39,436.00

* Note—Pacific-Conservative paid for basis only.

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1906

Insurance in Force - -	$94,836,637
New Business - - -	33,983,000
Admitted Assets - -	10,803,293
Income - - - -	4,637,746
Surplus - - - -	946,362

THE ONE GREAT COAST COMPANY

SEPARATE ACCIDENT AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FIELD MEN:

1—Life Department Exclusively. 2—Accident and Health Exclusively. 3—Life, Accident and Health.

WRITE FOR AGENCY.

SAN FRANCISCO LOS ANGELES

1794 OLDEST INSURANCE COMPANY IN HARTFORD **1906**

NINETY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBIT

OF THE

Hartford Fire Insurance Company

OF

OF HARTFORD, CONN.

JANUARY 1, 1906.

ASSETS.

Cash on hand, in Bank, and Cash Items	$735,032.24
Cash in hands of Agents and in course of Transmission	2,731,794.97
Rents and Accrued Interest	9,690.90
Real Estate Unincumbered	1,018,500.00
Loans on Bond and Mortgage (first lien)	658,500.00
Loans on Collateral Security	1,000.00
Bank Stock, Hartford, Market Value	414,685.00
Bank Stock, New York, Market Value	449,692.00
Bank Stock, Boston, Market Value	12,750.00
Bank Stock, Montreal, Market Value	95,976.66
Railroad and Miscellaneous Stocks	1,405,087.50
State, City and Railroad Bonds	10,518,251.91
Other Assets	10,965.69
TOTAL ASSETS	$18,061,926.87

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock	$1,250,000.00
Reserve for Reinsurance	10,097,401.46
Reserve for all Unsettled Claims	1,563,828.93
Net Surplus	5,150,696.48
SURPLUS TO POLICYHOLDERS	6,400,696.48

GEO. L. CHASE, President.
CHAS. E. CHASE, Vice-President. P. C. ROYCE, Secretary.
R. M. BISSELL, Vice-President. THOS. TURNBULL, Ass't Sec'y.

WESTERN DEPARTMENT, CHICAGO, ILL.—Cofran & Dugan, General Agents; W. C. Boorn, Ass't General Agent.
PACIFIC DEPARTMENT, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.—Palache & Hewitt, General Agents.
Agencies in all the Prominent Localities throughout the United States and Canada.

38th Annual Statement

OF THE

Michigan Mutual Life Insurance Co.

For the Year Ending December 31st, 1905.

ASSETS.

Cash in Banks	$155,472.70	
First Mortgage Liens on Real Estate	7,605,307.81	
Real Estate, including Home Office Building, cash value	335,699.08	
Loans to Policyholders, secured by Reserves	978,706.69	
Agents' Balances	10,825.20	
Bonds, cash value	28,750.00	
Loans on Collateral	22,500.00	
Interest due and accrued	135,334.71	
Rents due and accrued	958.50	
Net Outstanding Premiums secured by Reserve Fund	77,885.02	
Net Deferred Premiums secured by Reserve Fund	96,367.49	
Total Assets		$9,447,807.20

LIABILITIES.

Amount of Reserve Fund; American Table, 4 per cent, and 3½ per cent. from Jan., 1903.	$8,925,351.61	
Premiums Paid in Advance	8,904.63	
Dividends on deferred premiums	615.14	
Death Losses, unofficially reported	5,137.11	
All other Liabilities	47,468.98	
Surplus	460,329.73	
Total Liabilities		$9,447,807.20

Increase in Assets	$554,048.47
Increase in amount of Insurance in force	4,421,477.00
Policies in force December 31, 1905	35,463
Amount Insured thereby, including Additions	$49,837,227.56

Total Amount Paid Policyholders since Organization, $13,006,237.65.

O. R. Looker, President. G. W. Sanders, Actuary.
C. A. Kent, 1st V.-Pres. and Counsel. T. E. McDonough, Ass't Secretary.
Hoyt Post, 2d Vice-President. B. A. Welstead, Assistant Actuary.
A. F. Moore, Secretary. J. P. Dawson, Cashier.
Theron F. Giddings, G. Supt. of Ag. A. H. Wilkinson, Attorney.
C. A. Devendorf, M. D., Med. Direc.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE
Insurance Company.
1846—1906.

On January 1, 1906, the CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members $238,241,229.24. It had returned to them $240,738,252.73, or $2,497,023.49 more than the amount received from them. It had assets on hand of $66,038,928.62, and a surplus of $4,897,647.21 with which to meet a liability, actual and contingent, of $61,141,281.41 on $169,412,783.00 at risk on 71,307 policies. Except in the possible case of some society or concern with only a local and slight membership, no comparable results have been accomplished by any other American Life Insurance Company.

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President.
HENRY S. ROBINSON, Vice-President.
HERBERT H. WHITE, Secretary.
DANIEL H. WELLS, Actuary.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410.42	$11,290.773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President.
EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer.
BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary.
T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

THE AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

OFFICE COMPANY'S BUILDING. **308 and 310 Walnut St., Philadelphia.**

CASH CAPITAL	$500,000.00
Reserve for Reinsurance and all other claims	2,116,118.40
Surplus over all Liabilities	222,677.40

TOTAL ASSETS, JANUARY 1, 1905, $2,838,795.80.

JOHN H. PACKARD, JR., President.
WAITE BLIVEN, Secretary.
WM. F. WILLIAMS, Treas. and Asst. Sec'y.
EDWARD MANEUVRE, Asst. Sec'y.
LOUIS S. AMONSON, Secretary of the Agency Department.

DIRECTORS:

John H. Packard, Jr.
Joseph E. Gillingham.
Charles S. Whelen.
Edward F. Beale.
John S. Gerhard.
Edward Lowber Welsh.
Archibald R. Montgomery.
Thomas K. Ober, Jr.
Francis E. Bond.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres.
W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres.
CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,
OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

WHAT is the use of saying
"The best company,"
or "The strongest company,"
or "The largest company"?
They all say these things.

WE SIMPLY SAY . . .

THE PENN MUTUAL LIFE Insurance Company
OF PHILADELPHIA.
Organized 1847.

THAT TELLS THE WHOLE STORY.

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references,

WESTERN MANAGER

Care of WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William, St. New York City

Applications will be considered strictly confidential.

C. H. Buuker, President. Franklin H. Head, Vice-President.
A. A. Smith, Secretary, H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.

Continental Casualty Company

POLICIES ARE PROTECTED by more than ONE MILLION DOLLARS ASSETS.

Capital Stock, $300,000.00

Accident and Health Insurance

General Offices, **Chicago.**

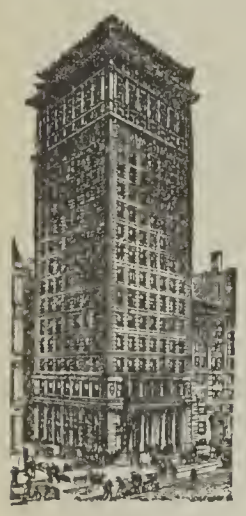
OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS paid in claims to 175,000 of our POLICYHOLDERS.

GOOD CONTRACTS IN GOOD TERRITORY TO GOOD MEN

Producers, address H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr. 134 Monroe Street, Chicago.

Capital, $2,500,000. AGENTS WANTED.

SURETY ON BONDS.



American Surety Co.,

100 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK.

Capital, $2,500,000.

STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Resources (including Capital, $2,500,000) $6,193,137.53
Liabilities (including Reserve, $856,188.70) 1,347,671.23

HENRY D. LYMAN, *President.* W. S. JOHNSTON, *Vice-President.*

Telephone : Cortlandt 5395.

SUCCESSFUL LIFE INSURANCE MEN

wishing to secure a first class contract with a continuous renewal interest should communicate with

Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

New policy forms with special features very attractive to prospective insurers.

FOR FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS

C. H. JACKSON, Agency Secretary.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencies

WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

TESTIMONY AND REPORT

of the

Joint Committee of the Senate and Assembly

Appointed to investigate the business and affairs of

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES

Doing business in the State of New York

NEW YORK, February 5, 1906.

DEAR SIR:

I have acquired by assignment from the Law Reporting Co. its interest in its copyrights, orders and all other rights in its publication of the above reports, etc., and, accordingly, realizing the urgency of promptly satisfying, at a reasonable price, the demand for these volumes, I have undertaken the enterprise with a view to securing more effective service in this regard, and, believing that efforts in this direction will be appreciated, I have endeavored to, and am now, through the co-operation of the largest printing establishment in the State of New York, in a position to guarantee to subscribers:

(1) That the statement contained in the circular letter, signed by George M. Shotwell, of "THE WYNKOOP-HALLENBECK-CRAWFORD-SHOTWELL-BRANDOW POLITICAL COMBINATION," to the effect that theirs is "THE ONLY OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE" is untrue. Their publication has, since their abrogration of the contract with the Armstrong Committee, been materially corrected and changed, and, as will more fully appear in my advertisement in the February issue of "THE INSURANCE MONITOR," a copy of which will be immediately mailed to you, my publication IS THE ONLY OFFICIAL PUBLICATION of the copy LAST REVISED AND FINALLY CORRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE ITSELF and MADE OFFICIAL by an Act of Legislature of this State passed last week and which is now on Gov. Higgins' desk awaiting his signature.

(2) That not a line of this corrected official edition has yet been set in type, this delay being caused by the Committee's final corrections of the Shotwell-Brandow edition, but, these corrections having been just completed, our arrangements are such, and we accordingly guarantee, that the complete set of these official reports as finally corrected by the Committee, and by it declared to be official, will be expressed to our subscribers during the current month, February, 1906, and in addition thereto, the tenth volume containing ALL the matter heretofore advertised for sale in this connection by the Law Reporting Company will follow immediately.

(3) In view of the fact that the BRANDOW PRINTING CO. are now advertising that their publication is "THE ONLY OFFICIAL REPORT" of these proceedings for sale, for our own protection as well as yours we take the position, and accordingly guarantee:

(a) THAT THE FIRST NINE VOLUMES OF MY PUBLICATION CONTAIN A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FROM BEGINNING TO END, INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO THE LEGISLATURE, EXACT COPIES OF WHICH WILL BE SUBMITTED BY THE COMMITTEE TO THE LEGISLATURE WITH ITS REPORT,—WILL BE IDENTICAL THEREWITH IN EVERY PARTICULAR, LINE FOR LINE, PAGE FOR PAGE,—AND IS HEREBY UNRESERVEDLY GUARANTEED TO BE THE GENUINE OFFICIAL REPORT OF THIS LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE'S PROCEEDINGS.

(b) That we will send to you, express prepaid, the complete work on THIRTY DAYS APPROVAL, and also upon the express condition that if the BRANDOW PRINTING COMPANY'S statements are, IN YOUR OPINION, TRUE, you will return our volumes to us at our expense.

(c) For the purpose of facilitating your comparison, we will deposit with a responsible law firm of your city a complete set of the Legislative Committee's official publication, properly authenticated.

(4) If, upon receipt of this report, it is not found in EVERY WAY to be as represented, you may return the same, at your convenience, at our expense.

(5) The price of this work will remain the same as heretofore advertised, FIFTY DOLLARS ($50) FOR THE COMPLETE SET, EXPRESS PREPAID.

Respectfully yours,

GEO. A. HENDERSON, President

LEGISLATIVE REPORTING CO. 63-65 WALL STREET, NEW YORK CITY

The Washington Life Insurance Company

141 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

JOHN TATLOCK, President.

HON. CHARLES H. ALLEN, Vice-President.

J. W. B. VAN DE WATER, Secretary.

THEODORE T. JOHNSON, Second Vice-President.

Statement for the year ending December 31, 1905

INCOME.

Premiums, New	$271,329.48	
" Renewal	2,175,343.66	
" Reversions and Paid-up Policies	266,911.03	
" Annuities	28,789.40	
Total Premiums		$2,742,373.57
Interest		479,422.27
Rents		379,864.19
Profit and Loss		37,973.38
		$3,639,633.41

DISBURSEMENTS.

Death Claims	$1,024,198.45	
Matured Endowments	430,335.72	
Annuities	35,182.07	
Surrender Values	530,931.20	
Dividends	102,467.17	
Total paid to Policyholders		$2,123,114.61
Head Office Salaries	$96,239.12	
" " Expenses	41,690.48	
" " Rent	31,000.00	
Commissions, New	173,336.30	
" Renewal	133,965.18	
" Commuted	24,186.37	
Agency Allowances	111,145.23	
Medical Department Expenses	23,665.11	
Legal Expenses	18,917.52	
Advertising	20,141.89	
Total Expenses of Management		674,287.20
Insurance Fees and Taxes		51,057.39
Taxes and Expenses on Real Estate		190,831.48
Profit and Loss		9,382.24
Balance		590,960.49
		$3,639,633.41

ASSETS.

Real Estate	$6,652,484.00
Bonds and Mortgages	4,440,550.00
Stocks and Bonds, Market Value	4,654,607.50
Loans on Collateral	5,000.00
Loans on Company's Policies	1,668,696.13
Cash in Office	1,937.24
Cash on Deposit, at interest	199,345.12
Cash on Deposit, without interest	5,000.00
Interest and Rents, due and accrued	127,330.73
Uncollected and Deferred Premiums, Net	254,360.86
	$18,009,311.58

LIABILITIES.

Reserve on Policies, Additions and Annuities	$17,199,865.00
Unpaid Death Claims	25,526.80
Reported Death Claims	87,315.00
Matured Endowments, unpaid	20,616.33
Premiums Paid in Advance	8,087.27
Interest Paid in Advance	16,117.05
Cash Dividends, unpaid	8,191.14
All Other Liabilities	36,358.76
Surplus to Policyholders	607,234.23
	$18,009,311.58

NEW INSURANCE (paid-for basis) $6,892,547
INSURANCE IN FORCE 63,255,371

The Total Decrease in all Disbursements in 1905, as compared with 1904, was		$516,259.06
The Decrease in Head Office Salaries was		59,874.14
The Decrease in Total Head Office Expenses was		79,573.01
The Decrease in Agency Expenses was		186,630.43
The Increase in Assets was		522,867.38
Apportioned as follows:		
Increase in Reserves	$462,630.00	
Increase in Other Liabilities	28,319.15	
Increase in Surplus	31,918.23	
	$522,867.38	
Net Earnings for 1905:		
Dividends to Policyholders		110,658.31
Increase in Surplus		31,918.23
Total		$142,576.54

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Samuel B. Clarke,	Charles F. Cutler,	William Corcoran Eustis,
H. Ward Ford,	Charles D. Dickey,	Levi P. Morton,
George M. Hard,	James A. Parker,	Winthrop Rutherfurd,
G. G. Haven,	William A. Street,	Thomas F. Ryan,
Dumont Clarke,	Harry Payne Whitney,	Valentine P. Snyder,
Samuel P. Colt,	Charles H. Allen,	John Tatlock.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1906. No. 7.

Published every Saturday by the Underwriter Printing and Publishing Company.

Subscription price: Five Dollars per annum in advance.

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Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

WE reprint from the New York *Herald* what purports to be a summary of the contents of the Armstrong report. While we doubt if it is wholly a true version, there has evidently been some shrewd guessing on the part of our enterprising contemporary, and we give its statement for what it is worth. As outlined by the *Herald,* the report has fallen into the not wholly unexpected error of trying to do too much, and consequently of going too far. Some of the alleged propositions are unconstitutional, others are impracticable, and two or three are positively vicious. The proposal, for example, to require the publication by companies, annually or semi-annually, of lists of all their policyholders, with their addresses and amounts of insurance, is both bad and impracticable, and probably unconstitutional. The Appellate Court of New York has just rendered a decision in the case of Venner denying the right of policyholders to see these lists, and it is a question whether such an invasion of the privacy of a policyholder as the forcible publicity of the amounts of insurance he has taken on his life for the benefit of his family or his creditors could be sustained in the courts. There are fifteen million policyholders of New York life insurance companies, and it would require an annual report twenty times as large as Webster's International Dictionary to comply with such a law. We have no idea that the Legislature would pass in their entirety the bills which the *Herald* claims that the committee is about to report for enactment. To do so would impugn its judgment for ordinary common sense, and lead to never ending litigation in the courts.

THE plans of Mr. Thomas W. Lawson to capture the life insurance companies, and attach their assets to his speculative kite tail, are on an extensive scale. He has organized a committee of governors and senators—some of whom, however, have hastily backed out—as decoy pigeons. Fifty thousand policyholders' proxies—more or less—does Lawson claim to hold; enough, he says, to control the forthcoming annual elections of the Mutual and New York Life insurance companies, and his demonstrations upon those corporations will be backed by a simultaneous mass meeting of 150,000 policyholders in Madison Square Garden, New York (traveling expenses paid by Mr. Lawson). The capacity, it may be remarked in passing, of the Garden is 10,000 at society horse shows and bicycle tournaments, when crowds are greatest, and the stuffing of Mr. Lawson's multitude into the enclosure will surely burst out its side walls, and bring the roof down on the devoted heads of the inmates. However, that is a mere matter of detail. Mr. Lawson's further purpose, as announced, is to incontinently turn out, at the meetings, all the present officers of the two companies, including Presidents Peabody and Orr, and substitute persons of his own choosing. We get all these particulars from the daily newspapers, whose columns are kept hot with special dispatches about Mr. Lawson's proceedings at Chicago, St. Paul, Des Moines, Washington, Baltimore, Boston and other places. The daily newspapers are quite taken with Mr. Lawson's preparations and prognostications, and do not appear to entertain even a suspicion that he may be ejecting quantities of hot air under high pressure. Let them and all others who are concerned in and about Mr. Lawson's plans consider these facts: The number of trustees of the Mutual Life, under its charter, is thirty-six, and nine of these are elected annually. The number of trustees of the New York Life is twenty-five, and of these six are elected annually. Thus it will be observed that there must be several annual elections before the present boards of each company can be revolutionized and put into Mr. Lawson's control. Meanwhile the present trustees have also been collecting proxies, and with the agents of the companies as helpers they possess a truly goodly number. Will it not appear to the committee of governors and senators, on reflection, that their journey hither, at the bidding of Mr. Lawson, may be in the nature of a "fool's errand"? As the representatives of policyholders—and not of Mr. Lawson—they surely will be welcomed by the trustees and officers of the companies, and their desires will be treated with great respect. But as a part of Mr. Lawson's greatest insurance circus and hippodrome on earth, they will be a "holy show" only.

WE have received from Dr. Ashbel P. Grinnell, of Fifth avenue, New York, a copy of his address on "Drug Consumption and Alcohol as Found in Proprietary Medicine," with the request that we will state, after reading, whether we think "proprietary medicines should be labeled the percentage of alcohol they contain," and whether we approve "of placing such remedies on the same plane as required in the sale of beverages; for example, ale, lager beer or light wines, and require of the vendors of such remedies a State tax." After reading the doctor's tabulation of the percentage of alcohol found in most of the liquid patent medicines of the day, we unhesitatingly reply to both of his questions that we do. He makes these strong declarations:

> It is generally believed that the only source of evil in developing and sustaining the alcoholic habit is found in the "licensed bar-room," "the restaurant" (fashionable or otherwise), "the café," "the sample room," etc., but it can be proven, and I make the statement without fear of refutation, that the amount of alcohol consumed in this country by persons taking proprietary medicines under a variety of titles, viz., "tonics," "blood restoratives," "alcoholic cures," etc., is in amount in excess of all the alcohol dispensed in a legal way by licensed vendors, perhaps excluding lager beer.
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> The legitimate and legally licensed dealers in alcoholic stimulants are considered responsible for all the evils incident to their unholy traffic, but the pharmacist, proprietary medicine manufacturer, and the vendors of "alco-

holic cures" are looked upon as public benefactors, dealers in life saving commodities, when the facts will show that the so called guardians of the human race and its appetites are distributing more alcoholic stimulants, with its consequent destructive effects, than all the others combined.

Considering the fact that as a people we swallow more medicine than any other people on earth, it is a wonder that we are not already a nation of confirmed drunkards. We are certainly proceeding in that direction, and unconsciously, because we are not aware of the quantities of rum that we absorb with our favorite "non-alcoholic" cure-alls. It is a shocking revelation that two of the most widely advertised (and sold) patent medicines of the day—alleged remedies for nervous disorders—which occupy pages of the daily papers, with accompanying portraits of the old women, Congressmen and mayors it has rescued from the grave, have, on the fire test, each shown nearly seven hundred per cent. more alcohol than beer. By all means have the legislatures pass laws obliging these concoctions and their like to state on their labels the percentage of alcohol they contain, and require their manufacturers to take out regular liquor licenses and pay the internal revenue tax on distilled spirits. We are specially interested in this matter from an insurance point of view, because it exhibits in a striking light the pharisaical attitude of the daily press toward the life insurance companies. A very large part of the income of the daily papers is derived from the advertising and puffing of certain proprietary medicines, which not only defraud the public but educate thousands of people to become drunkards. No "graft" that ever existed in insurance companies equals a tithe of that enjoyed by the dailies from base advertising.

Facts and Opinions.

The president of the National Association of Life Underwriters has made a report to the executive committee on the results of the life insurance **convention of State officials at Chicago**, in which delegates of the association took part. In the course of the report President Scovel says:

Our delegation is much pleased at the situation, and at the official status accorded to the National Association of Life Underwriters as a distinct factor in this great movement. We were invited by the same authorities as all other delegates, namely, by Chairman Drake, of the preliminary committee, with express concurrence of President Roosevelt. At the beginning of the convention we were duly listed on roll call; we participated in the proceedings sparingly, modestly, just as we desired to; at the close, we were thanked for our presence and assistance by resolution offered by Commissioner O'Brien of Minnesota (chairman of the committee on legislation), who referred particularly to our proper attitude on the question of voting. Out of that question had arisen the misunderstanding apparent in some newspaper reports, which failed to state that we went before the committee on credentials and voluntarily waived any right to vote, cordially agreeing that the action of the convention would have the proper official and popular character by allowing each State to have but one vote, to be cast by the officials present, representing its whole people. In view of other press reports, it should be added that, when called upon in the dividend discussion, I carefully refrained from taking sides against either deferred or annual dividends, but said that our membership included advocates of both; and declared my own belief that, with proper accounting for all surplus and other safeguards against extravagance and dishonesty, both systems could be safely left in competition, allowing the future to develop freely the best methods of either distributing or accumulating surplus. The National Association has received an official recognition of signal importance. We are in a position to be more and more useful in this great movement, as it becomes more widely understood that we are the only national life insurance body; and that as a body we have no relations with any company management, but do directly represent the tens of thousands of agents who are in closer touch than anyone else with the millions of policyholders throughout the country. Our intimate personal relations with the policyholders, no less than our own best interest, impel us to do all we can toward the wise legislation necessary to guard the future of life insurance and to restore full public confidence therein.

In the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court on February 9 a decision was handed down reversing the order of the lower court granting a peremptory writ of mandamus compelling the **New York Life** insurance company to allow the **inspection of its records** so that the petitioners (C. H. Venner and others) might obtain the names and addresses of the 750,000 policyholders of the company. Justice Clarke, who wrote the opinion, said that the action of the lower court in granting the order was improper. Justices Ingraham and Laughlin concur. Justice Houghton dissents. Justice Clarke said:

It appears that the principal petitioner is not a stockholder, and is not possessed of the rights of a stockholder. He is a policyholder in a mutual life insurance company, to which his relation is primarily one of contract measured by the terms of his policy. He has by his policy the right to vote for trustees. * * It does not seem to me that the analogy between policyholders and stockholders is sufficiently strong to extend to policyholders * * rights which heretofore have been conceded to stockholders as such. While the assertion of the desire to confer with other policyholders, in order that intelligent and concerted effort may be made to elect an efficient board of trustees, is most persuasive, and at first blush almost compels the granting of the motion for an inspection; yet it is the duty of the court to take into consideration the interests not only of the ninety-one petitioners, but of the 750,000 other policyholders not here personally represented.

To issue the order asked for would, the opinion says, make it impossible to avoid giving information other than mere names and addresses, for the card index "contains much information to which the petitioner is not entitled." The possession of the 750,000 names and addresses, too, "might be a most valuable asset in unscrupulous hands." Justice Clarke also says that "there is much in the answering papers which would tend to throw doubt upon the motive of the moving parties."

The attorney for the Illinois Insurance Department, C. H. Hamill, has given an opinion which will have an important effect on the business of the **New York life insurance companies operating in Illinois.** New York last year enacted a new franchise tax law imposing a tax of 1 per cent. on the business of the previous year done in the State for the privilege of exercising corporate franchises to carry on business. This applies to all insurance companies except fire and marine insurance, which already pay a percentage tax on their premiums, and to fraternals. Mr. Hamill holds that Illinois should exact from each life insurance company organized under the laws of New York and doing business in Illinois 1 per cent. of the gross premiums received by it during the preceding year, for business done at any time in the State, to include premiums on policies subsequently cancelled, reinsurance, etc., whether paid in notes, credits or cash. This is to be in addition to all other fees, taxes and licenses imposed on New York companies. Credit is to be given, however, for any other taxes imposed on New York companies under the reciprocal provision of the Illinois law. This will affect over $10,000,000 of Illinois insurance premiums.

The **Tennessee fire insurance** premiums and losses for 1905 have been published. As was assured, the **loss ratios shown are unusually high,** and many companies lost heavily, even disregarding expenses. The Hartford is the leader in premiums, with $286,881 and losses of $248,986; the Home of New York follows, with $255,755 in premiums and losses of $169,390; the Continental standing third, with $243,159 in premiums and $142,292 in losses. The companies writing over $100,000 in premiums were the Ætna, with $108,158 and $85,689 in losses; Connecticut, $108,245 and $84,164 in losses, and Insurance Company of North America, with $105,451 and $86,451 in losses. The Royal had the worst loss ratio in the State, with premiums of $70,221 and losses of $183,776. Other com-

panies which lost more than their premium income were the Aachen and Munich, Citizens of St. Louis, Commercial Union, Georgia Home, German American, Indemnity of New York and Norwich Union. The Northern and the Law Union and Crown have notified the Tennessee department that they will not ask for renewal of their licenses.

The **National Life of the U. S. A.** has decided to fight back in the attack being made upon it by attorneys at Galesburg, Ill., who asked for a receivership in order to force a settlement of a claim on their own terms, under one of the old bond policies of the National Life and Trust, which was reinsured some years ago by the National of the U. S. A. The company insists that the claim is unjust, and the settlement excessive, and that it merely refused to be held up, although willing to settle the contract according to its terms. W. H. Atwood, the lawyer in the case, has been sending out circulars to other policyholders of the National Bonded Trust asking them to join in the suit, and agreeing to take care of their interests for 25 per cent. of whatever amount might be collected. The National has now asked for an injunction restraining further circulation of such offers and the charges which go therewith. In the meantime the court at Des Moines has granted an injunction restraining the National Life of the U. S. A. from taking over any of the policies or contracts of the National Life and Trust, pending a hearing.

A meeting of fire underwriters was held in New York on Tuesday to consider the question of organizing a **bureau to ascertain the loss cost of various classes of hazards.** Cecil F. Shallcross was appointed chairman and Henry T. Alley secretary. J. B. Branch, president of the Providence-Washington, addressed the meeting in favor of establishing such a bureau on the lines of his recent communication on that subject. E. H. A. Correa, vice president of the Home, spoke in favor of the project, as did Clarence E. Porter, president of the American and Spring Garden; George W. Babb, manager of the Northern, and P. L. Hoadley, vice president of the American of Newark. Those who spoke in opposition were Charles G. Smith, secretary of the German American; F. O. Affeld, manager of the Hamburg-Bremen, and J. Montgomery Hare, manager of the Norwich Union. After considerable discussion the whole subject was referred to a committee of seven to be appointed by the chair and report at a future meeting.

A Paris press dispatch says that the **French Government** has made a notable concession to the **American insurance companies** whereby the new insurance law will not be applied so as to affect their interests injuriously. This closes a long and animated controversy. The insurance law permitted the Government to require foreign companies to deposit French securities as a guarantee for the payment of French policies. The American companies agreed to deposit French bonds covering their future business, but they objected to making an enormous purchase of French securities covering their past business. The Minister of Commerce strenuously insisted on deposits on past business, approximately $20,000,000. The Government has now waived this stipulation on condition that the companies publicly announce that their past business is guaranteed by American securities and not by French securities.

An honored guest at the annual meeting of the **Baltimore Life Underwriters' Association** on Saturday was Charles W. Scovel, president of the National Association of Life Underwriters, who spoke on "The Scope of the Life Insurance Principle." Other speakers were: Governor Edwin Warfield, of Maryland, on "The Relation of Life Insurance to the State"; Mayor E. Ely Timanus, of Baltimore, on "Our City"; Ira D. Remsen, president of Johns Hopkins University, on "The Educational Influences of Life Insurance"; the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Dodd, on "Twentieth Century Standards," and B. Frank Crouse, Insurance Commissioner of Maryland. The following officers were elected: Edwin W. Heisse, president; Gilbert E. Walter, vice president; George M. Kimberly, secretary, and Monroe Snell, treasurer. Marcellus H. Goodridge, the former president, was elected chairman of the executive committee.

The **Mutual Life of Baltimore** having accepted forty-one weekly premiums, Chief Judge McSherry, in the Maryland Court of Appeals, has decided that the company must pay its policy on the life of the mother of Mary B. Monahan. The payments made the policy valid, the court held, although in the Superior Court of Baltimore City the insurance company won, claiming that it had been stated in the original application that the policy in the Mutual Life was the only one on the insured's life when there was another policy. The lower court was reversed on appeal, and a new trial ordered. The Court of Appeals further ruled that representations in an application for an insurance policy, made in good faith but as a matter of fact untrue, must not be held to vitiate the contract of insurance unless absolutely material to the risk.

The **New York life insurance companies** have a suit pending **before the Illinois Court of Claims** to recover taxes paid by them under the reciprocal provision of the Illinois law as a result of the New York franchise tax. The Illinois department construed this to apply to renewal as well as new premiums, and collected for several years on that basis, but a recent decision of the New York court held that the law applied only to new premiums. In consequence the New York companies have applied to the Court of Claims, which is the only body which can take cognizance when funds paid to a State department have once been turned into the State treasury. Should the Court of Claims support the claim, an appropriation will then have to be made by the Legislature.

The Prudential has withdrawn the suit which was brought two years ago **against Insurance Commissioner Host,** of Wisconsin, to compel that official to reissue the license permitting the company to do business in Wisconsin. The insurance company has also withdrawn the suit which was brought to recover fees paid for an examination and costs in the Wisconsin Circuit Court. President Dryden said on Monday that the questions had been settled to the satisfaction of the company and there was no need of legal action. This proceeding on the part of the company does not affect, however, the libel suits which Commissioner Host brought against sundry insurance papers, and which are still pending. It is understood that he intends now to push them to the bitter end.

At last Tuesday's meeting the **Boston Board of Fire Underwriters** was again confronted with the question "to apply or not apply" the reduced rate clause to rent insurance policies. A proposition to adopt two forms in use in New York resulted in an order to have these forms printed and distributed among the members of the board, in order that they may act intelligently on the matter at its next meeting. On request of the schedule committee that body was given authority to apply advisory rates in cases that cannot well be fitted by schedule. Beginning with this week the schedule committee will render reports to each meeting of the board. New members of

the tariff committee were chosen in the persons of Messrs. Dewick, Chamberlain and Winchester.

Believing that **rebating** has materially increased the cost of insurance, a deputation of the Canadian Insurance Association of Toronto, to which nearly all Canadian and British life insurance companies belong, has approached Attorney General Foy to ask that remedial legislation be passed. Those in the deputation were: George A. Cox, president of the Canadian Life; L. Goldman, managing director of the North American Life; Thomas Hillard, president of the Dominion Life; E. Marshall, secretary of the Excelsior Life; E. Sparling, secretary of the National Life; J. O. McCarthy, Ontario manager of the Great West Life; George B. Woods, managing director of the Continental Life, and T. Bradshaw, actuary of the Imperial Life.

About 200 policyholders of the **Empire Life insurance company** of New York, now in the hands of a receiver, appeared at the company's offices on Wednesday afternoon. They said they had received circulars purporting to come from the company, inviting them here to attend a policyholders' meeting. They found no such meeting was to be held, and finally decided that the circular was sent by another insurance company in the same building, supposed to be the Temperance Benevolent Association, to secure the Empire's list of risks. Assistant District Attorney Lockwood advised a delegation which went to him to complain to the Federal authorities on a charge of fraudulent use of the mails in sending the deceptive circulars.

The order of the North Carolina court in the **Blackwell suit against the Mutual Reserve Life** has been vacated. The facts in the case were that Blackwell brought suit to recover premiums that had been paid on his policy, which lapsed in 1895. The amount of premium he had paid was $2,300, but in order to get the case into the lower court he sued for only $2,000, and applied for a receiver for the company's receipts in North Carolina in order to collect the amount of the suit. The temporary receiver appointed by the court was a trust company of which Blackwell was the principal owner. The Mutual Reserve was served on February 9, and on its application the receivership order was vacated on Thursday of this week.

Judgment in $3,500 against Mrs. Nancy C. Booth, of Altoona, Pa., has been secured by the **Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland** in the Blair County Court. Mrs. Booth's father, William Zeigler, deserted his family years ago in Hollidaysburg, and having been declared legally dead by the court some years ago, the sum of $3,500 coming to him from his father's estate had accrued to his children. Recently Zeigler, like the proverbial bad penny, turned up, and as the Fidelity Company was on his children's bond to indemnify the administrator from loss, Zeigler made the Fidelity Company pony up. As turn about is fair play, the company sought and secured collection of their claim from Mrs. Booth.

The Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives at Washington began a hearing on January 9, under direction of the House, upon the question of the power of Congress to provide **Federal supervision of insurance.** R. W. Breckenridge was heard in favor of the proposition, and George Whitlock, of Baltimore, in opposition. Mr. Whitlock contended that the American Bar Association had not committed itself on the question, and that if the Supreme Court had ever established any doctrine it was that insurance was not commerce. Three chief justices and twenty associate justices, he said, had all gone on record to that effect.

An important change in the headship of the **Union insurance company of Philadelphia** took place this week. Charles S. Hollinshead, for many years president, retired and William Muir, second vice president, was advanced to the presidency. Mr. Muir has been continuously in the insurance business since early manhood, holding various positions as special and general agent, and has been in the service of the Fire Association for twenty-three years. He will be the executive underwriter of the combination composed of the Union, State of Pennsylvania and Fame insurance company, all of which will soon be operated together in the Union's building. The officers of the State continue as heretofore.

The vacancy in the **secretaryship of the Home of New York,** caused by the death of W. H. Cheney last December, was filled by the board of directors at its meeting on Tuesday by the appointment of Charles L. Tyner. The new secretary has been connected with the Home seventeen years, more recently as the head of the Western department at the home office. Before joining the company in 1889 he was in the employ of the Erie Railway. Since then he has traveled extensively for the Home in the Western field, and brings to his new position ripe experience combined with exceptional ability as a fire underwriter.

The Denver Union Water Company has begun the construction of **two new reservoirs in** the residence section of **Denver,** giving a pressure of 80 pounds to the square inch. They will have a capacity of 30,000,000 gallons. Denver claims to be the only large city in the world with seven independent sources of water supply, all interchangeable, and any one being sufficient for a general conflagration. This is due to the close proximity of the mountains. The budget of the city for 1906 calls for $240,000 for the fire department, as against $205,000 in 1905, which provides for additional men and more engines.

Although "killed" by a dynamite explosion on January 22 J. J. McEachern, a miner, was alive enough to be wounded by a bullet on February 10 while resisting arrest at the home of his sister at Victor, Col. **Blowing to pieces** the corpse of Robert Speed, a companion, killed two days previously while at work in the mine, McEachern caused proofs of his own death to be prepared and an insurance company settled the claim, supposing the remains to be those of McEachern. The fraud was discovered, and the swindler is in the Cripple Creek jail, while Speed's friends are threatening a "necktie" party.

Recent disagreements among the official force of the **Interstate Life of Indianapolis** have caused several resignations, and at the annual meeting this week Charles A. Ludlow, the president, handed in his resignation, his health being impaired. The following officers were then chosen: F. B. Davenport, president; John T. Martindale, vice president and superintendent of agencies; E. F. Eaton, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Davenport was the former secretary. Mr. Martindale succeeds Mr. Marsh as vice president.

The Spectator Company has issued the **"Fire Insurance Pocket Index"** for 1906. It shows ten years' statistics of nearly 300 companies, with totals and ratios, together with information concerning unlicensed companies, Lloyds, retired companies, marine and inland business, large fires during 200 years, underwriters' agencies, monthly fire losses, and conflagration losses; also short rate scales. The "Fire Insurance Pocket Index" for 1906 contains eighty

pages, and presents the statistics of twenty-one more companies than did last year's edition.

The following officers were elected at the annual meeting of the **Detroit Life Underwriters' Association,** held last week Tuesday: President, Frank C. Campbell; vice president, O. C. Seelye; second vice president, George H. Beach; secretary and treasurer, N. J. Dixon; executive committee, Col. Will A. Waite, C. A. Stringer, D. A. Pierson. Colonel Waite, the retiring president, spoke at the subsequent banquet, as did Rev. S. S. Marquis, his subject being "Intellectual Honesty." Three new members were elected.

Suspected of pouring benzine on his sleeping brother Carl, and of setting him afire, causing death, in order to collect insurance on his life aggregating $3,000, Alexander Legler, Jr., of Jersey City, has been arraigned in court there **charged with fratricide.** Poison, it is alleged, was administered when Alexander perceived that death would not result from the burns. Death came December 19, five days after the "accident" occurred. The body, at Baxley, Ga., will be exhumed. The insurance has not yet been paid.

Louisville fire insurance agents repudiate the charge that they have been cutting rates without necessity, leading to a recommendation of the governing committee of the Western Union that companies turn down all policies sent in at cut rates. They say the only cutting has been on sprinkled business, and has been forced by the excessive competition of the mutuals. In one case a rate of 15 cents was made to hold a sprinkled risk, but the mutuals got it at an estimate of 6 cents.

The announcement was made this week that the **Provident Savings Life** will withdraw its agencies from several States, among them Massachusetts. Controller Hubbard said on Thursday: "We have made several material economies in our home office and outside. The action taken in Massachusetts will be followed in some other States. This was the day for filing our statement. Our failure to do this was really equivalent to announcing our purpose of taking our agency from Massachusetts."

On Saturday last Llewellyn Newburg, alias Stolz, twenty-four and a jailbird since his twelfth year, surrendered himself to the police of the Roxbury district of Boston with a confession that he set the $75,000 **fire in the freight yards of the Boston and Maine Railroad** on August 23, 1904; also that he applied the torch to a hay car on July 5 of the same year. He was arraigned in the Charlestown Police Court Tuesday and held in $5,000 for the March session of the grand jury.

Surety companies have been having a hard time on **Colorado county officials,** owing to the very lax methods frequently followed in accountings. A State accountant has been employed, who is going over the various records, and during the past year over $10,000 has been paid to the counties by surety companies on the bonds of officials as a result of his investigations. In spite of this fact surety companies have cut their rate on county official bonds to $1.50 per $1,000.

The State of **Michigan does not insure its property** and claims that it is ahead of the game, although it has been forced to pay a number of heavy losses. The State auditors have just allowed a claim for $55,000 to rebuild the Northern Michigan Normal School at Marquette. In ten years the total allowances by the board have been $87,963, but several losses have occurred during the sessions of the Legislature which were taken care of by direct appropriations.

At the annual meeting of the **Empire State Surety Company,** held on Wednesday at the home office in Brooklyn, the following officers were elected: William M. Tomlins, president; E. H. Driggs, first vice president; Frank Jenkins, second vice president; Moses May, third vice president; Walter J. Moore, fourth vice president; Daniel Stewart, secretary; C. Jenkins, first assistant secretary; J. J. Shields, second assistant secretary; Thomas H. McFarland, treasurer.

The steamship Devonian, of the Leyland Line, bound from Liverpool for Boston, went ashore on the rocks off Scituate, Mass., in the early hours of Thursday morning, and was in a precarious position, so far as vessel and cargo were concerned, until taken off by tugs in the afternoon. The Devonian, registered tonnage 6,823, was built at Belfast, Ireland, in 1900. She is valued at $500,000, and her cargo at $700,000, on which there is a large insurance.

The **proposed investigation of the Iowa life insurance companies** was postponed by the appointment of a sub-committee to consider its necessity. This committee will determine whether the special examinations of the Iowa companies, made last year by State Auditor Carroll, have been sufficiently wide in their scope. One of the principal causes of complaint was that the reports of these special examinations had not been made public.

The policyholders of the **Northwestern National Life of St. Paul,** at the annual meeting on Monday, passed resolutions directing reincorporation under the legal reserve laws. The following officers were elected: President and general manager, L. K. Thompson; actuary, W. J. Graham; secretary-treasurer, R. Esterly; counsel, John T. Baxter; auditor, H. F. White. The election of vice president was deferred to the next board meeting.

While in attendance at an early morning fire in Commercial street, Boston, Thursday, William T. Cheswell, **chief of the Boston fire department,** was attacked by heart failure, and died soon after at the Relief Hospital on Haymarket square. He was in his sixty-third year, and had been connected with the department since 1862, since March, 1901, as its chief. He was a good man, faithful to his duty, and brave and able in its performance.

Complaint is made of **deficient fire protection at Manitowoc, Wis.,** where the adjustment of a loss shows that the water supply was wholly inadequate. The city has frequently called for pressure tests for the purpose of securing evidence to justify the annulment of the franchise to the private water company, which has two years still to run, but has secured no material improvements. The insurance companies may take action.

The **Mutual Life of New York** is preparing to make material changes in its **Chicago agency** work, where it has heretofore maintained a department office. Three or four independent agencies are to be established, officered and manned by the agents now on Manager Carlile's staff. A clearing house will be established and the general plan of operation will be modeled, as a rule, after that of the New York Life.

Arrangements have been made by which the **Western Life Indemnity** of Chicago is to be reinsured by the American Mutual Life of Chicago. A meeting of the policyholders of the former is to be held March 19 to vote on the reinsurance contract. In this way the company gets on the legal reserve

basis. The American Mutual Life was recently organized by George W. Riggs with an authorized capital of $500,000.

The **Life Underwriters' Association of Western New York** elected officers for the ensuing year on Wednesday as follows: Herbert E. Crouch (re-elected), president; Ernest G. Hatch, vice president; D. Clark Ralph (re-elected), second vice president; Edgar C. Fowler, secretary and treasurer; executive committee, F. A. G. Merrill, Edward A. Horgan, D. W. Cherrier, Charles H. Weber and J. D. McCalmont.

The **National Surety Company** is to hold a series of agency conferences in various parts of the country, which will be attended by President Joyce and other officers, the intention being to bring the producing force into closer touch with the company. The first gathering will be at San Francisco March 29, and from there the officers will work their way East, holding meetings at all large centres.

The **Once a Year Club** of insurance journalists will have its annual rally at Delmonico's next Monday night. Preceding the appetizers and oysters there will be a business meeting and an attempt to elect officers. The attendance of the best brains in the American press is expected to be large on this occasion, and there will be distinguished guests also to grace the festal board.

Only non-participating policies are to be written by the **Commercial Life** insurance company being organized in **Indianapolis**, Ind., by A. J. Hebiker, who brought the Central Union Life of Indiana into existence. William A. Pickens will be general counsel of the company, and Dr. George D. Kahlo medical director. Policies will be issued in three months' time.

Texas fire insurance companies had a good year in 1905. The Insurance Department has gone over the records of the six stock companies and the local mutuals, and finds that on a premium income of over $1,000,000 the loss ratio will be about 30 per cent. The average loss ratio for all companies in Texas will be 52 per cent., as compared with 94 per cent. in 1904.

The agency fire insurance companies transacting business in **Colorado** have determined to fight the **agency fee rule** of the State Insurance Department, and the National Fire of Hartford has filed suit against Auditor Bent and Deputy Superintendent Rittenhouse, asking the court to enjoin them from refusing to issue license until it pays the disputed claim.

Recent losses have been too much for the **Windham County Fire** insurance company of Brooklyn, Conn., organized for a farm business eight years ago, and at a meeting of the stockholders on Wednesday it was voted to retire and divide the assets. The policies in force, all in Connecticut, amount to $3,428,292.

The **Continental Life Insurance and Investment Company of Salt Lake City** has established its head office in San Francisco. It will retain official headquarters in Utah, where it was chartered and began business, but all policies will be issued and the work directed from the San Francisco office. A large part of the stock has been placed on the Pacific Coast.

The **American Druggists Fire** insurance company has been incorporated at Columbus, Ohio, with $200,000 capital. The company was formed solely to carry the risks on the 42,000 retail drug stores of the country, many of which claim the fire insurance companies are charging their class of risks excessive rates. Headquarters will be in Cincinnati, Ohio.

A verdict of $27,854 in favor of **Mrs. Appolonia Blair** against the Provident Savings Life of New York was returned Monday by a jury in the St. Louis Circuit Court. Mrs. Blair held a policy on the life of her husband which the company declined to pay on the ground that the deceased contemplated suicide when he signed the application.

The guests at the annual dinner of the **Boston Life Underwriters' Association,** which will take place at Young's Hotel next Wednesday evening, will be President Charles W. Scovel, of the National Association of Life Underwriters; Hon. Louis A. Frothingham, ex-speaker of the Massachusetts House, and Rev. Edward McArthur Noyes, of Newton Centre, Mass.

Officers for the coming year were elected at the annual meeting of the **New Hampshire Life Underwriters' Club** held at Manchester Tuesday evening. They are: James A. Wellman, president; James F. Whitney, vice president; A. W. Childs, secretary and treasurer. E. S. Owen, R. W. Cheney and E. F. Seyler compose the executive committee.

Fire insurance **agents at Charleston, W. Va.,** are protesting against the recent action of the West Virginia Association in throwing open rates on coal properties. They claim that in the Kanawha and New River fields, which are controlled from Charleston, conditions have been satisfactory and there was no need for the rate war which has been precipitated.

At the last regular meeting of the directors of the **Boston Manufacturers Mutual Fire** Joseph P. Gray was elected president to succeed the late Edward Atkinson, and John B. Seward was elected treasurer. At the annual meeting of the members of the company, held Tuesday, last year's board of directors was re-elected.

The **Cleveland** city council has passed an ordinance authorizing the expenditure of $92,000 for the **high pressure system** to be installed in the congested district, the work to be done during the coming summer. The recent quarter million dollar loss showed plainly the need of a high pressure system there.

A joint committee from the Middle States Department, the South Eastern Tariff Association and West Virginia Fire Underwriters' Association was appointed to devise a **uniform schedule for tanneries.** The committee was able to agree on deficiency charges, but could not get together on a basis rate.

One of the largest contract bonds ever written in Chicago was recently issued through the **United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company** for McArthur Brothers, railroad contractors with headquarters in Chicago, covering a contract on the Tidewater Railroad. The premium was nearly $20,000.

Charleston, S. C., is to have **a life insurance company of its own.** At a meeting of prominent business men held last week about $50,000 was promised towards the capital, which will be $250,000. The main argument in favor of starting the company is that "it will keep the premiums at home."

Convicted of arson George Johnson, a negro firebug, was sentenced Wednesday at Stroudsburg, Pa., by Judge Staples, to serve twenty-four years in the Eastern Penitentiary, an unusually long sentence. After robbing A. B. Wyckoff's house there the negro set it on fire to cover his tracks.

The **Freeholders' Fire of Topeka,** Kan., organized last year, is entering Missouri, Texas and Oklahoma. James W. Bailey

has resigned as State agent for the Phenix in the mountain field to become assistant manager of the Freeholders, being a brother of G. A. Bailey, its secretary and manager.

The new secretary of the Indiana State Board is considering the **adoption of the Dean schedules,** to which the non-Union field men are opposed. The old State Board schedules have been used in Indiana, and several previous efforts to supplant them by the Dean schedule have been foiled.

The **Security Life and Trust Company of Illinois** is being promoted in Chicago by the **Rhodus brothers,** who formerly ran the Western Mutual Life, which got into trouble and was forced to reinsure. E. T. Rhodus, who has been with the New York Life, is the active organizer.

The **Germania Life** is giving up its branch office system in the large cities and is establishing agencies. August Goerts, who has been St. Louis manager, has resigned and two agencies have been established, one with J. E. Lawton & Son and the other with Paul Theegarten & Co.

The next meeting of the **Insurance Library Association of Boston** will take place at the Quincy House Friday evening, February 23, when Mr. C. C. Ramsdell, of the Gilbert & Barker Manufacturing Company, will discourse on the subject, "The Gasoline Hazard."

The Individual Fire Underwriters of St. Louis have been given a **special contract with London Lloyds** for placing surplus lines, under which it can write any risk equal to its own line up to $25,000, and can bind without referring the lines to London for acceptance.

The New Zealand Fire, which operates on the Pacific Coast, has absorbed the **New Zealand Accident insurance company.** The assets of the reinsured company were $1,000,000, and $575,000 in cash and 25,000 shares in the New Zealand Fire were paid for them.

The annual meeting of the **Cincinnati Life Underwriters' Association** was held Tuesday evening, following a banquet. These officers were elected: W. D. Yerger, president, re-elected; Charles E. Logan, vice president; Isaac Bloom, secretary-treasurer.

The **Northwestern Guaranty Company** of Chicago, against which proceedings have been begun by the Illinois Insurance Department charging non-compliance with the law, has filed a plea claiming that its form of business is not insurance.

The quarterly meeting of the **Underwriters' Bureau of New England** takes place in Boston next Wednesday morning, and in view of the proposed "merger" of this institution with the "big bureau," some interesting reports may be looked for.

The **Jefferson Fire of Philadelphia** will apply for admission to Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, appointing H. G. Fairfield, of Boston, its general agent for these States, and H. G. Fairfield & Co. its agents for Boston.

The **Phenix of Brooklyn** has taken up its supplies with C. E. Densmore, its agent at **Bellaire, Mich.,** where there has been much trouble recently over separation. Mr. Densmore refused to give up the agency for the Connecticut.

The Western Union has issued a new schedule for rating **ice factories and cold storage warehouses.** Ice factories are given a slight reduction, while cold storage warehouses get a small increase.

The **Actuarial Society of America** has voted to permit fellows to use the initials "F. A. S." and associates to use the initials "A. A. S." after their names, following European usage.

A new non-board fire insurance company, capitalized at $300,000, is being organized at **Youngstown, Ohio,** by Judge George E. Rose, who is preparing the articles of incorporation.

Real estate men in the West have been informed that the **Northwestern Mutual Life** proposes to increase its loans on real estate rather than make investments in bonds.

Indianapolis gave the fire insurance companies a **bad year in 1905,** the premiums being $1,060,000, while the losses for the first six months alone were $834,000.

The **Boston agency of the German of Freeport,** Ill., has been given to Kaler & Carney, and that of the Security of Baltimore to R. H. Hoffman & Co.

The next convention of the **Detroit Conference** of casualty and health insurance companies will be held in that city on February 28 and March 1 and 2.

The **Midland National Fire,** the recently organized St. Louis company, is entering Arkansas, and has appointed Johnson & Cotnan as State agents.

The **Century Fire of Des Moines** will enter Minnesota and South Dakota to write farm business and preferred classes in selected towns.

The **Boston agency** of the American Fire of Philadelphia has been resigned by Field & Cowles and Reed Brothers succeed them.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

American Fire of Philadelphia: Reed Brothers, Boston, succeeding Field & Cowles, resigned.

Illinois Life: A. W. McFarland, State manager for the State of Washington.

Mr. George Guerraz, for a number of years with the home office of the Fireman's Fund, has been appointed special agent for Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming, assisting State Agent White, of Denver. James R. Quick, also a graduate of the home office, has been made special agent in eastern Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana, assisting Herbert P. Blanchard, of Spokane.

Mr. J. C. Harvey, who resigned several weeks ago as second vice president of the National Life of the U. S. A., is now on the Pacific Coast, and is associated with G. A. Moore, formerly president of the Pacific Mutual Life, in the organization of a new life company. Mr. Harvey's position, which was largely actuarial, will not be filled by the National.

Mr. Edwin D. Bouldman has been appointed Eastern manager, with headquarters in New York, for the Pacific-Conservative Life of San Francisco. Mr. Bouldman was once supervisor of agents for the Travelers in Ohio and more recently manager of the central department of the New Amsterdam Casualty Company.

Mr. Edwin Goatt, for some years past managing underwriter of the Title Guaranty and Trust Company of Scranton, Pa., has been elected third vice president and manager of the company. The company, as previously announced, has substituted the word "Surety" in its title for that of "Trust."

Mr. Peter Q. Deyo, formerly of Ackerman, Deyo & Hilliard, died Tuesday in Pike County, Pa., where he had been living for a little more than a year. The immediate cause of his death was a hemorrhage. He had suffered from tuberculosis for a long time.

Mr. F. C. Whittemore, of the St. Louis, Mo., fire insurance agency firm of Wall & Whittemore, has bought out the interests of his partner, Nicholas R. Wall, and the partnership being dissolved the F. C. Whittemore Company will continue the business.

Mr. James C. Snow, of Chicago, has been made agent of the Columbian National Life for the western district of Michigan, with headquarters

in Grand Rapids. He succeeds George H. Luther, recently appointed manager in Wisconsin.

Mr. William S. Hastie, one of the oldest and most prominent insurance agents of Charleston, S. C., died there on Wednesday. Mr. Hastie represented the Queen, Atlas of London, Mutual Life of New York and other companies in Charleston.

Mr. J. White Belcher, for years president of the Dedham Mutual and the Norfolk Mutual Fire insurance companies of Dedham, died at Randolph, Mass., February 9, aged eighty-three years. He had been ill for several weeks.

Mr. A. Ransom Wright, son of William A. Wright, of Georgia, has been appointed district superintendent of the Metropolitan Life at Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Wright has been inspector of agencies for the company for some time.

Mr. Lyman M. Payne, a former Albany, N. Y., agent of the New England Mutual Life, died February 5 in the City Hospital, Boston, from injuries resulting from a fall a few days previously. He was fifty-nine years of age.

Capt. Miletus Garner, of Wilmington, Ohio, has resigned as correspondence clerk in the Ohio Insurance Department to become manager of the central Ohio business of the American Assurance Company of Philadelphia.

Mr. H. D. Anthony, for eighteen years with the Norwich Union, latterly as New York manager, also secretary and director of the Indemnity Fire of New York, has resigned these positions.

Mr. C. Weston Bailey, who has been with the American of Newark for twenty-nine years, was made assistant secretary, and Roy C. Vanderhoff, cashier, at the recent annual election of officers.

Mr. S. H. Billinge, with the home office of the Williamsburgh City Fire for several years, has been appointed special agent for several Western States, with headquarters at Indianapolis.

Mr. H. S. Holton has resigned as superintendent of agents for the Connecticut General Life of southern Ohio, to become manager for the Franklin Life at Detroit.

Mr. Robert G. Miller, a New Brunswick, N. J., fire insurance underwriter, died February 6 at his home of double pneumonia, aged sixty-four years.

Mr. Maxwell A. Huston, secretary of the Louisville insurance company since its organization in 1872, died suddenly in Florida on Tuesday last.

Mr. John R. Baird has resigned from the New York Life to become Missouri State manager of the John Hancock Life.

Mr. S. H. Reck has resigned as general agent of the Equitable Life at Rockford, Ill., to go into other business.

Mr. Alfred Olson, a Sacramento, Cal., insurance man, died February 1 from a stroke of apoplexy.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

A bill has been introduced providing that no new fraternal insurance societies shall be organized in Iowa, or admitted into the State, unless their assessment rates are at least equal to those in the tables of the National Fraternal Congress. The law does not apply to organizations now licensed in the State.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, February 13.—A bill which is in the hands of the Committee on Mercantile Affairs (House No. 789) is of interest to insurance companies, among others. It amends Chapter 437, Section 1, of the acts of 1903 by adding at the end this provision:

"No foreign corporation, unless authorized by the General Court, shall in this Commonwealth carry on any business for which a corporation cannot be formed under the provisions of this act."

The act quoted is the general corporation act, which was passed to revise the corporation laws and give more opportunity for the home investment of capital. It is known as the business corporation law.

BOSTON, Mass., February 15.—A large majority was given by the House this afternoon for the Senate resolve for the appointment of a commission to recodify the insurance laws. Mr. Mellen, of Worcester, challenged the passage of the resolve on the ground that the people would distrust a codification made by a commission presumably under the influence of the insurance companies.

Mr. Andrews, of Holyoke, in charge of the resolve, refuted all reflections on the honesty and competence of the commission which would presumably be appointed. There was further argument, but the House was largely for the measure. The rules were suspended and the resolve was passed to be engrossed.

The Committee on Mercantile Affairs last Monday reported to the House a bill amending the theatre laws of 1904 and 1905 so that their provisions shall not apply to halls, rooms, buildings or parts of building in cities or towns outside of Boston which are used for "occasional" public gatherings or for the "occasional" presentation of dramatic, operatic or other performances. The bill gives the power of licensing such halls to the district police, and provides for their inspection twice a year. Appeals from the rulings of the district police may be taken to either the Superior or Criminal courts.

New York.

ALBANY, February 13.—At last night's session of the Legislature, Assemblyman Salomon introduced a concurrent resolution providing for a committee, to consist of three Senators and five Assemblymen, to investigate the conduct, resources and management of fraternal insurance organizations doing business in New York State. The sum of $10,000 is to be appropriated for the uses of the committee. The resolution was referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 14.—Senator Smith today introduced Senate Bill No. 367 (Bedell bill of last year) to permit mutual fire insurance companies of other States to do business in this State, and to regulate their business; also to prohibit insuring of property located in this State in unauthorized companies.

Senator Fitzgerald introduced Senate Bill 372, allowing title guarantee corporations to guarantee correctness of searches and insure bonds and mortgages and owners of real estate interested therein.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 15.—There are expectations that the report of the Armstrong Insurance Investigating Committee, with accompanying bills, may be presented to the Legislature the coming week. The measures will be referred to the insurance committee of each House for consideration, and a number of public hearings will be had upon the bills. Meantime the committees will continue in a condition of innocuous desuetude.

Ohio.

Senator Hafner has introduced Senate Bill No. 113, which provides that life insurance companies may not do in this State also a fidelity and employers' liability insurance business.

South Carolina.

COLUMBIA, S. C., February 9.—A bill has been introduced which provides for a 2 per cent. tax on gross fire insurance premiums in all incorporated cities or towns having in serviceable condition fire apparatus belonging thereto valued at $1,000 or upward. The moneys so collected by the State Treasurer are to be paid over to the treasurer of the Firemen's Relief Association.

Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., February 12.—Mr. Sears has introduced Senate Bill No. 250, making it unlawful to insure property in the State of Virginia, except through resident agents.

Miscellany.

Recommendations of the Armstrong Investigation Committee's Report.

The New York *Herald* of Friday contained what claimed to be a synopsis of the forthcoming report of the Armstrong Committee, which is still in the hands of the committee and undergoing final reading. It is described as a document of nearly 800 foolscap pages, of which ninety pages run to recommendations. It will take three days to be read by the committee and before the members affix their signatures, and it will be presented to the Legislature next week. We collate from the *Herald* the following summary of what purports to be the recommendations of the committee:

New policies cannot be written by a life insurance company beyond $150,000,000 in a single year. At this point new business must be refused. It is believed by the committee that the large companies will bitterly oppose this provision, which will tend to build up the smaller companies.

Limit of salary for presidents of life insurance companies is placed at $50,000 per annum and must depend upon the earnings of the company. The question of the constitutionality of this drastic provision was long considerd by the committee, and while it was admitted that it would be outside the province of the Legislature to arbitrarily set salaries, it was held that it would be entirely unobjectionable to establish a salary on a percentage basis founded on the business of the twelve months preceding.

The publication of the names of *all* policyholders, with the amounts for which each is insured, is provided. Some members of the committee, however, favor semi-annual publications of these lists, and the report may be amended to that effect.

No attempt is made to reorganize the Insurance Department or to create new officials, but Superintendent Hendricks and Chief Examiner Vanderpoel are severely handled in the report.

Standard forms of life insurance policies are provided, and a company can issue but one style of policy, straight line or conditional. It is provided that an insurance company shall sell only one style of policy. If the company prefers the old, straight line type of policy it must stick to that and cannot sell conditional policies. On the other hand, a company which engages to write conditional policies may not give its patrons the choice of conditional or straight line policies.

Offering of rebates and bonuses is made a misdemeanor. "Twisting" is also made a misdemeanor.

Agents are placed under strict supervision and must be paid straight salary or commission, mixed compensation being forbidden. Agents are not to get renewal commissions.

Administration tickets to be voted for at the annual election must be filed with the Superintendent of Insurance twenty days before election, and 100 policyholders may by petition put up an independent ticket. Proxies cannot be used at more than one election. In other words, it will be impossible to obtain proxies and hold them for half a dozen years to be voted as needed. Again, 100 policyholders may draw up a petition and put up a ticket of their own in opposition to the administration ticket, and the election must proceed with regularly appointed election officers whose names have been filed with the Superintendent of Insurance at the time the administration ticket was filed. These election officers must be policyholders. Stated times for holding elections must be mentioned in the body of each policy, so that the insured may at all times be in possession of the information, and the method of sending proxies and of voting must be set forth. Whether the company shall be a mutual or a mixed mutual and stock concern policyholders are placed in an independent position.

Life insurance companies may not control subsidiary companies nor hold more than 20 per cent. of the stock in such companies, and officers of insurance companies may not hold stock in such subsidiary companies.

Sec. 56 of the insurance laws is repealed, and suit may be brought against an insurance company precisely the same as against any other company. Formerly suit could not be brought save by permission of the Attorney General.

Fraternal societies cannot hereafter be chartered in this State. It is believed those now existing will, in the course of time, be forced to reinsure their risks and go out of business. The constitutional provisions governing the impairment of contracts prevented the committee from legislation against fraternal organizations now existing.

Borrowing from his company by an official is prohibited, and participation in syndicates for the purchase and sale of securities is also forbidden. Infringement of this provision is made a misdemeanor.

Universal mutualization is advised and encouraged and a means provided for mutualization of stock companies.

Reform in investments is directed, but no attempt to particularize the character of the securities is undertaken.

Expense of first year business must be kept within the "loading" on the premiums.

Mutual corporations must deposit $100,000 with the Superintendent of Insurance.

Deferred dividends for a term of years are abolished. But the policyholder may, at his option, draw his dividend each year or signify his desire that his share of the dividend shall be passed to his credit and held by the company. In other words, the company must each year declare a dividend of all the funds on hand in the nature of surplus, over and above 10 per cent., and pass at once to the credit of each policyholder his proportion of such dividend, which is at the immediate disposal of the policyholder. He may let it remain and draw interest or draw it down at once, and each year he may choose what he desires to do with his dividend.

It was found impossible to deal adequately with the industrial feature of life insurance. The subject was found to be so large and the interests involved so diversified that more light will be required before attempting to legislate upon the industrial problem. This feature is left with a recommendation that the subject be investigated at greater length in the future.

The report practically recodifies the insurance laws of the State, amending many sections, repealing others and adding still others entirely new. The recommendations will be accompanied by at least six bills.

President Paul Morton's Views on Life Insurance—He Outlines the Future Policy of the Equitable.

An article "prepared specially for the *Courier-Journal*" by the president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society appears in that journal. As it is the first personal statement of his views upon life insurance conditions and prospects, aside from official communications, that has been made public, it will be read with considerable interest. Mr. Morton says:

Life assurance is distinctively an American institution and the people have abundantly proved their faith in it during the past year by subjecting it to an ordeal which would have closed a thousand of the strongest national banks in the country. That their faith was and is well founded has been conclusively demonstrated. Throughout all of the information, and misinformation, that has been published on the subject, the great life assurance companies continued to pay every policy as it matured, and not a question has been raised as to the financial solidity of any one of them. Nor has it been questioned that life assurance is a powerful beneficent agency, and stands as a mighty factor—perhaps the greatest—for the promotion of thrift and the prevention of pauperism.

These are facts which have been clearly brought out by the rigid investigation into methods and conditions, and the sober second thought of the American people will dwell on them in

summing up the results of a momentous year. After four complete and searching examinations by outside authorities and expert independent auditors, American and British, who placed all valuations on an ultra conservative basis, the Equitable has been shown to be in a most healthy financial condition, with a surplus of $67,000,000, which is an additional protection, above the face of their contracts, to the policyholders, among whom it will be distributed as their policies mature or reach the distribution periods. During every working day that the Equitable was under the fire of criticism—honest or otherwise—it paid out $118,000. It would be interesting to know the exact number of widows and fatherless children who were protected from want and suffering by the millions of dollars thus distributed.

The growth of life assurance in the United States proves that it has come to be regarded as an absolute necessity, which fills an economic need that nothing can replace. In 1859 the old line American life assurance companies had outstanding assurance amounting to a little more than $140,000,000; now they have nearly $13,000,000,000, which closely approximates the combined assets of American railroads. The amount of life assurance in force in other countries, much of which is in American companies, is: Great Britain, $4,344,522,975; Germany, $1,320,163,685; France, $720,000,000; Austria, $370,621,530; Russia, $47,925,979.

Since 1843 American life assurance companies, exclusive of beneficial societies and fraternal orders, have paid to policyholders and beneficiaries $3,577,041,422, and now hold $2,518,091,782 in gross assets, constituting the combined reserve fund for the payment of policies now in force, making a total of $6,095,133,204 in benefits to policyholders. The companies have received in premiums $6,066,673,283, so as the account now stands it shows a profit of $28,459,921 to the policyholders. Without forgetting or condoning the errors of judgment, and in some instances the mismanagement of the past, one who views the whole situation with unprejudiced mind must be forced to the belief that these results could not have been attained except through the exercise of earnest and exceptionally intelligent effort, shrewdness and integrity. The figures above given prove that people need no further reasons for assuring their lives than those with which they are familiar. Just now education should be conducted along another line. The only danger of the present situation is that on account of

THE RECENT AGITATION,

and because they do not thoroughly understand its effect, some men will be tempted to foolishly give up the protection that is so essential to the welfare of their families, or that many in need thereof will be deterred from securing it. In such cases it always is those who can least afford it who suffer, for the rich man is not so easily misled and does not surrender assurance which he knows is absolutely safe.

It is true that there have been some methods in connection with the management of the vast business of life assurance which properly were open to criticism, and that there has been in some quarters a tendency to exaggerate the relative importance of individual interests, which, had it not been checked in time, might eventually have led to serious consequences, but in this connection it should be remembered that the elimination of these objectionable practices has been going steadily forward ever since they first came to light, and the manner in which abuses have been corrected promises well for the future. The rights of the policyholders are paramount to every other interest, and they will be so recognized hereafter in the management of every good life assurance company.

Security is the essence of life assurance and the prompt payment of all obligations must be placed beyond the possibility of a doubt. Therefore the premiums charged by all sound companies are slightly in excess of the amounts which, under ordinary conditions, it is expected will actually be required to meet maturing claims and pay working expenses. A life assurance policy is a contract to make a fixed payment, or payments, in years—often many years—to come, and there always is the possibility that the future will develop contingencies which will differ from the experience of the past, hence the margin for absolute safety on premiums. It is this margin, added to the difference between the actual and the expected mortality and between the actual and the expected expense ratio, that makes up the "surplus," which provides the dividends to policyholders, or repayments, with interest, of that portion of their premiums which proved to be more than was required.

THE DEFERRED DIVIDEND POLICY,

which recently has come in for much criticism, was devised to give the largest returns to those who pay the greatest number of premiums. Under the annual dividend plan, the man who lives to pay only a few premiums receives proportionately the same benefit from the surplus fund as the man who survives the payment of many premiums. Still there are many who believe that dividends should be distributed every year, or every five years, and it is the policy of the Equitable to issue either form of contract that is desired.

The growth of life assurance and the spreading of its benefits are largely due to the persistence and energy of the agent in bringing home to the people the need of its protection. Naturally, this has not been done without cost. There is a question as to whether this cost cannot be materially reduced, and wherever such a reduction is possible in the Equitable it will be made. Agents are necessary, however, to the healthy growth essential to permanence and welfare.

Men differ in their needs regarding life assurance as they do in their wants regarding clothing. Everything depends upon the environment of the individual, and in the selection of a life assurance contract due regard must be given to the man's financial circumstances, the amount of assurance that will adequately serve his purpose, the number and ages of his dependents, whether he is insuring for their benefit or the protection of corporate interests, whether he desires the maximum protection for the minimum outlay, or wishes to consider the investment feature of life assurance. These are some of the questions to be decided. The companies offer a variety of policies which are calculated to meet the needs of any man. The average American life assurance agent is a man of integrity and good judgment. He generally is the neighbor and often the friend of the applicant, and is in the best position to advise him as to the form of policy best suited to his purpose.

Another important fact demonstrated during the recent agitation is that

THE PREMIUM CHARGES

of American life assurance companies are, on the average, less than those of foreign companies, and the American policies are far plainer and more liberal, and contain more privileges and options than the others. With the most careful management and rigid economy, it may be shown that a reduction in premiums is possible. At the utmost the reduction could not be more than 5 per cent. or 6 per cent., and even to do this might possibly involve the question of ultimate security. Rather than to raise such a question I think it will be generally agreed that it is best to continue the present premiums, until it has been proved by experience that they can be reduced with perfect safety. With the present trend of management in the great companies, the business will be conducted on lines of such conservatism and regard for the interest of the policyholders that future returns in dividends will reduce the cost of assurance to the minimum consistent with safety.

I am a great believer in publicity. Everyone who is at all interested has the right to know the precise financial condition of the Equitable. This will be acomplished through an annual audit of its accounts by independent expert accountants, whose report will be published.

As to "particular methods of management that will distinguish the Equitable," permit me to quote the following from my recent letter to policyholders, which conclusively states my position:

"There will be no effort by the new administration to have the biggest company in the world; the effort will be to make it the best and safest. Conservative lines will be followed. It will be the policy not to solicit or secure new business at the expense of the present policyholders, and in case it is determined that business in any section of the world is unprofitable, that field will be abandoned."

It will be my constant endeavor to conduct the affairs of this society in a manner that will merit the hearty approbation of its policyholders. PAUL MORTON.

Serious Illness of John A. McCall.

John A. McCall, late president of the New York Life insurance company, has been lying ill during the past week at the Laurel House, Lakewood, N. J., with his family gathered about him, in momentary expectation at times that he would die. The last reports from the bedside yesterday afternoon were rather more encouraging, but the fear of a fatal termination of the sickness still prevailed.

On Monday night Mr. McCall's condition was so threatening that the Rev. Mr. Healy, of the Church of St. Mary of the Lake, was hurriedly called and administered the last sacrament. He rallied, however, and has since been hovering between life and death. On behalf of his father, Mr. John C. McCall

on Wednesday issued the following statement, which he said that his father wished should be given to the public:

"Father wished me to make this statement, by reason of the fact that many of the newspapers have distorted the facts concerning his condition to such an extent that he deems it wise to issue it. I want to say at the outset that at no time has father's mind been clouded. He has full possession of all his mental faculties and talks and thinks as clearly as ever.

"He realizes his precarious condition, talks about it, and is resigned. He is prepared to die. I talked with him at length this morning and he wants the public to understand a few things which will perhaps interest all and clear up some misunderstanding and confusion. We all appreciate the gravity of his condition, except Mrs. McCall, who does not understand that the end is near. Father said to me this morning:

"'I realize that I'm a very sick man, and that I'm facing death. If it is God's will that I should go I'm ready. I have lived a clean life. I have lived the human life as I saw it and thought it best. No man, woman or child can say that I ever wronged him or her, as the case may be. I have never harmed anyone.'"

"Father wishes it to be clearly understood that his condition is not due in any way whatsoever to any of the developments of the insurance investigation or to the facts which came out respecting his relations with Andrew Hamilton. Deny that, if you please, in the most emphatic terms. His illness is due to causes to which any other man's ailments may be attributed. His troubles in insurance have no bearing on the case.

"Now respecting the matter of the relations between father and Judge Hamilton. He desires that it shall be known that in his last moments he reposes full and absolute faith in his old and good friend Andrew Hamilton. My father has the greatest love for and confidence in him. He told me to say so this morning, and I know it to be so.

"That love and confidence was never so great as it is now, and if my father were to make his will tonight he would be glad of an opportunity to make Judge Hamilton one of his executors. Father never dreamed of anything wrong in his relations with Judge Hamilton. He has the fullest confidence, respect, admiration and loyalty for this his true friend, and wants to be recorded as saying so tonight.

"Speaking for myself I have known Andrew Hamilton since I was a boy at his knee. I know him to be an honest man. It was at my suggestion that I went abroad to see Mr. Hamilton. I offered the idea to my father and he agreed to the plan. When I returned with my report I showed it to father and he was then a very sick man. But the report had a wonderful effect. It cheered him up and he felt better.

"When my father offered to pay back the moneys which had been handed to Judge Hamilton, he did so in plain and open defiance of the directors of the New York Life insurance company. They did not want him to do it. They advised him not to do it. But he didn't want such a load upon his shoulders, and therefore offered to make restitution.

"Father is not a wealthy man by any means. While he drew a good salary as president of the New York Life, he had many expenses, and he lived up to almost every cent of it. In addition to this, he paid $25,000 a year to the New York Life insurance company in insurance premiums."

It was reported on Friday that many letters and telegrams of sympathy from all parts of the country have been received by Mr. McCall, and particularly they commend the sentiments expressed toward Mr. Hamilton.

Proposed Organization of the Working Force of Local Boards of Fire Underwriters.

The following suggestions are made by a prominent fire underwriter:

No organization or individuals so authoritatively represent the interests of the fire insurance companies before the public as the officials and employees of the local boards of fire underwriters. It is, therefore, most important that the organization, methods and personnel of these boards should be such as to afford the insurance companies a thoroughly intelligent representation before the property owner in the interest of adequate rates, efficient fire protection and correct business methods.

Each officer and employee should be selected solely for his qualifications by training and experience for the particular duties he is expected to perform. His qualifications should be passed upon by the executive committee and made a matter of record.

An outline indicating a proposed order of organization of the supervising and working force is submitted below, showing the entire work of the association divided into three departments. The work of the various employees in each department is also classified.

OPERATING DEPARTMENT—Executive Committee and Manager.

- Secretary—
  - Interpretation of rules and forms.
  - Record of proceedings at board and committee meetings.
  - Classification of risks.
  - Charges of violations.
  - Financial and bookkeeping.
  - Miscellaneous duties of secretary.
- Superintendent of Ratings—
  - Rate computations.
  - Rate publications.
  - Information bureau regarding rates.
- Superintendent of Inspections—
  - General inspections—
    - For rating purposes.
    - For condition of premises.
  - Electrical inspections.
  - Sprinkler inspections.
  - Reports on causes of fires and their lessons.
  - Publication of inspection reports.

Supplemental Report of the Fowler Committee of the New York Life Insurance Company.

The investigating committee of the board of trustees of the New York Life insurance company, of which Mr. Fowler is chairman, has made a report, supplemental to the one published last week, which touches upon the contributions made by the company to the campaign expenses of the Republican National Committees. The report recommends that counsel be retained to sue the ex-officers of the company for the return of the $148,702.50 thus contributed. The following is the full text of this report:

It appears from the testimony taken by the Legislative Committee that there were contributed from the funds of the company to the Republican National Committee for campaign purposes the sum of $50,000 in 1896, of $50,000 in 1900, and of $48,702.50 in 1904. Those transactions were made by direction of President McCall, and when he was on the witness stand he frankly stated that they were made on his sole order as president and without authorization from any committee or the board of trustees. His justification of these contributions was the financial issue which was paramount in the campaign of 1898 and 1900 and the affirmative declaration in favor of the gold standard in the Republican platform of 1904, as contrasted with the rejection of such a declaration by the Democratic convention of that year, and the vast interests which the company had at stake as the owner of securities to the amount of two or three hundreds of millions of dollars, constituting the reserve fund for the benefit and protection of its policyholders.

There have been discovered no entries in the books of the company of the contributions made in 1896 and 1900, and, in fact, the information this committee has as to campaign contributions is derived almost exclusively from the statements of Mr. McCall and Mr. Perkins before the Legislative Investigating Committee. The contributions in these years were made, according to Mr. McCall, by the treasurer of the company, now deceased, and it is unknown to what account, if any, he directed them to be charged. It is unknown from what source he obtained the money with which to make the contribution of 1896. The same is true with respect to a part of the contribution of 1900. The contribution of 1904, aggregating $48,702.50, was originally advanced, by direction of President McCall, by Vice President George W. Perkins, and he was reimbursed in December, 1904, out of the funds of the company by a payment of which there is an entry in the ledger of the company, kept in its treasury department in the Hanover Bank Building, which reads: "By order of president, $48,702.50," but no other explanation is given on any of the books of the company of the purpose to which the money was applied.

The investigations of your committee have not disclosed any other contributions of the kind. Whether any of the sums charged to the policy fee account on the books of the Paris office were used for such purposes cannot be known until it is ascertained through legal proceedings or otherwise what disposition was made of them. If it should here-

after appear that any of these sums were so used their recovery will not be affected by any action based on the recommendations of this report.

These contributions were directed by President McCall in the belief that they were necessary in the interest of and for the protection of the policyholders, and not for any personal benefit or advantage. Notwithstanding the motives actuating Mr. McCall in directing them and the interest which the company may have had in the establishment and preservation of the gold standard, your committee is advised that the funds of the company could not be legally used for the purpose to which these funds were applied, or for any political purpose at any time or under any circumstances. The funds of the company can only be legally used for and in connection with the purpose for which the company exists, viz., the insurance of lives on a mutual basis. The use of them in aid of any political party, however necessary to the maintenance of values its policies may be deemed to be, is a use foreign to the trust with which such funds are impressed.

It follows, therefore, that these contributions were not legally justified and that such measures as are available should be taken for their recovery; and your committee emphatically commends the resolution unanimously adopted by the board, prohibiting contributions from the funds of the company for any political purpose hereafter.

Your committee therefore recommends that special counsel be retained to forthwith institute such legal proceedings as may be necessary to recover the sums so contributed from such officers and trustees of the company as in their judgment are liable therefor.

T. P. Fowler, Norman B. Ream, Augustus G. Paine, Hiram R. Steele, Clarence H. Mackay. Dated New York, February 14, 1906.

CHARTERED 1866.

Hartford Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

Up to date in business methods—in contracts—in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.

$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.

Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.

INVESTIGATE.

GERMANIA

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

NEW YORK.

ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE

Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

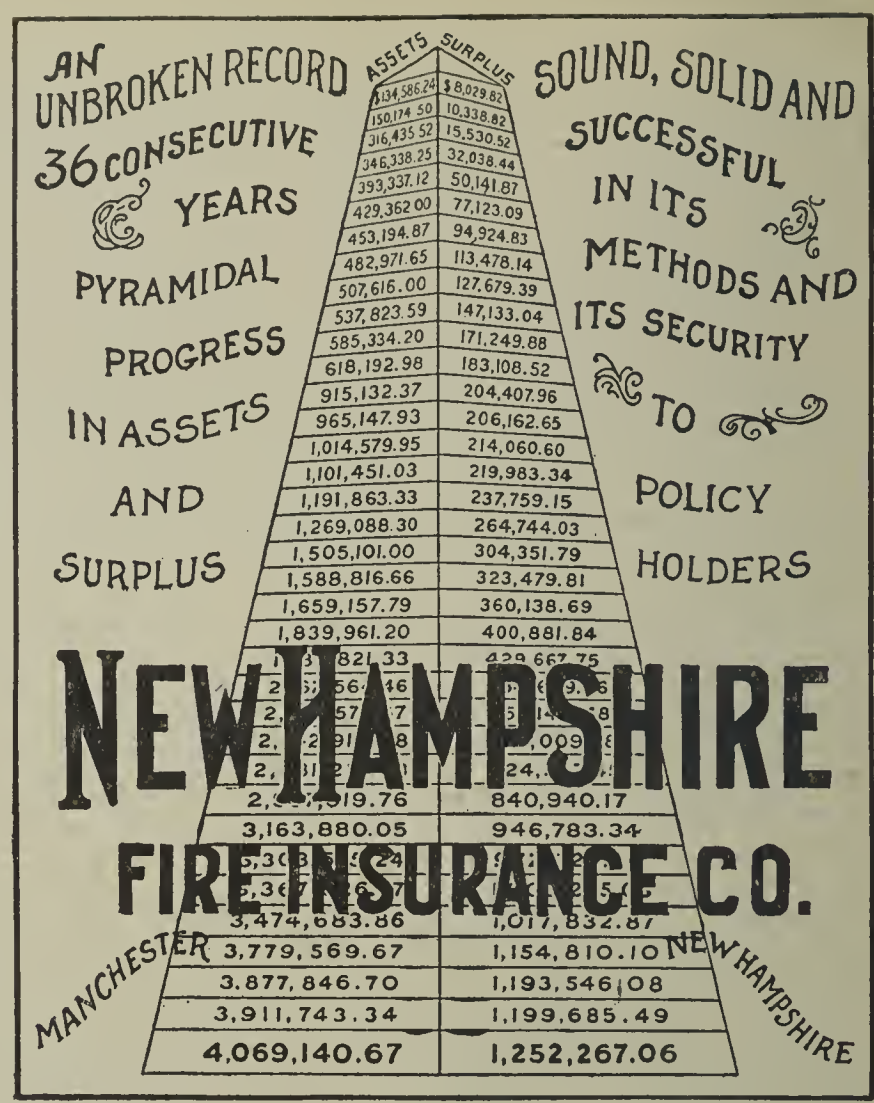
Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41 (Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.

Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request



Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 12 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Milwaukee.

ASSETS, $151,663,477.29

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1905 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $105.83 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1905:

395 per day in number of Claims Paid.
6,972 per day in number of Policies issued.
$1,502,484 per day in New Insurance Written.
$123,788.29 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.
$77,275.94 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks.	$79,629,477.18
Bonds and Mortgages	38,062,610.75
Real Estate	17,495,905.30
Cash	4,183,912.16
Demand Loans on Collateral	3,747,285.50
Loans to Policyholders.	3,703,554.50
Prem. deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,826,755.63
Accrued Int., Rents, etc.	1,013,976.27
Total	$151,663,477.29

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves	$132,705,296.00
All other Liabilities	2,776,602.33
Capital and Surplus	16,181,578.96
Total	$151,663,477.29

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security..... $318,264,084.12

Number of Policies in Force, 8,596,705.

Amount of Outstanding Insurance.....$1,596.509,769.00

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS.

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice President.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di.
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di.
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410.42	$11,290,773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary.
EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

London Assurance Corporation,

CHARTERED A. D. 1720.

SURPLUS IN U. S. JAN. 1, 1905, $831,256.62

CHAS. LYMAN CASE, Manager.
61 Pine Street, NEW YORK.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.

United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres.
W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.

LIMITED,
OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York

Head Office for the United States:

57 and 59

William Street,

NEW YORK.

A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Manager.

Provident Savings Life Assurance Society

OF NEW YORK.

TIMOTHY L. WOODRUFF, PRESIDENT.

THE BEST COMPANY FOR POLICY HOLDERS AND AGENTS.

SUCCESSFUL AGENTS, AND GENTLEMEN SEEKING REMUNERATIVE BUSINESS CONNECTIONS, MAY APPLY TO THE HEAD OFFICE, OR ANY OF THE SOCIETY'S GENERAL AGENTS.

[FIRE]
German American
Insurance Company
New York

CAPITAL
$1,500,000
NET SURPLUS
5,841,907
ASSETS
12,980,705

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY

OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

NEW YORK OFFICE:

68 WILLIAM STREET.

North British & Mercantile

INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

Established 1809.

OFFICE:

76 WILLIAM STREET,

New York City.

QUEEN

Ins. Co. of America.

NEW YORK.

YOUNG MEN MAKE MONEY

There are opportunities to represent a big, sound, up-to-date Life Insurance Company in a profitable manner.

Prudential representatives make money. They have most varied forms of policies and advantageous contracts, with liberal commissions.

The attention of young men, particularly young men starting in business, is especially sought.

Write for full information regarding these unusual opportunities.

THE PRUDENTIAL
INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey.

JOHN F. DRYDEN, President — Home Office, Newark, N. J.

The Mutual Benefit
LIFE INSURANCE CO.

NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

ASSETS (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1905,	$93,237,790.27
LIABILITIES,	85,918,227.30
SURPLUS,	7,319,562.97

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

SUN
Insurance Office of London

FOUNDED 1710.

United States Branch: 54 Pine St., New York.

Western Department: 171 La Salle St., Chicago.
Pacific Department: 215 Sansome St., San Francisco.

OFFICIAL TESTIMONY AND REPORT OF THE

Joint Committee of the Senate and Assembly

Appointed to investigate the business and affairs of

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES

Doing business in the State of New York.

NEW YORK, February 5, 1906.

DEAR SIR:

I have acquired by assignment from the Law Reporting Co. its interest in its copyrights, orders and all other rights in its publication of the above reports, etc., and, accordingly, realizing the urgency of promptly satisfying, at a reasonable price, the demand for these volumes, I have undertaken the enterprise with a view to securing more effective service in this regard, and, believing that efforts in this direction will be appreciated, I have endeavored to, and am now, through the co-operation of the largest printing establishment in the State of New York, in a position to guarantee to subscribers:

(1) That the statement contained in the circular letter, signed by George M. Shotwell, of "THE WYNKOOP-HALLENBECK-CRAWFORD-SHOTWELL-BRANDOW POLITICAL COMBINATION," to the effect that theirs is "THE ONLY OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE" is untrue. Their publication has, since their abrogration of the contract with the Armstrong Committee, been materially corrected and changed, and, as will more fully appear in my advertisement in the February issue of "THE INSURANCE MONITOR," a copy of which will be immediately mailed to you, my publication IS THE ONLY OFFICIAL PUBLICATION of the copy LAST REVISED AND FINALLY CORRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE ITSELF and MADE OFFICIAL by an Act of Legislature of this State passed last week and which is now on Gov. Higgins' desk awaiting his signature.

(2) That not a line of this corrected official edition has yet been set in type, this delay being caused by the Committee's final corrections of the Shotwell-Brandow edition, but, these corrections having been just completed, our arrangements are such, and we accordingly guarantee, that the complete set of these official reports as finally corrected by the Committee, and by it declared to be official, will be expressed to our subscribers during the current month, February, 1906, and in addition thereto, the tenth volume containing the following matter:

Stenographer's Minutes of all the testimony taken by the Joint Committee of the Senate and Assembly of the State of New York, the arguments of Counsel, all exhibits, statements, reports and other documents received in evidence reported verbatim. The only accurate and complete stenographic report, amounting to about two million words.

History of the Investigation.—The conditions in life insurance and other causes which led to the appointment of the Legislative Committee, and the method of its organization and its course of procedure.

Results of the Investigation.—The final detailed **Report of the Legislative Committee** and recommendations made to the Legislature proposing new and corrective legislation, with a summary of changes brought about and other results of the Investigation.

Index of witnesses; index of subjects, and **cross index of witnesses and subjects** by companies investigated make it possible to use the vast amount of testimony easily.

Appendix, containing the report of the Frick Committee on its investigation of the Equitable Life Assurance Society;

Appendix containing the important testimony taken by the "Hendricks" (New York State Insurance Department) Investigation of the Equitable Life Assurance Society;

Appendix containing the "Hendricks" (New York State Insurance Department) report on the above Company;

Appendix containing the report of the Truesdale Committee in the investigation of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, and other papers of importance in relation to that company;

Appendix containing the report of the "Fowler" Committee investigation of the New York Life Insurance Company.

This printed report is convenient and easy to use, and free from errors; complete indices make the important facts in this great mass of material easily accessible, and with historical matter and statistical tables make the work perfectly comprehensive, and all that is needed for a complete mastery of the results of the Insurance Investigation.

(3) In view of the fact that the BRANDOW PRINTING CO. are now advertising that their publication is "THE ONLY OFFICIAL REPORT" of these proceedings for sale, for our own protection as well as yours we take the position, and accordingly guarantee:

(a) THAT THE FIRST NINE VOLUMES OF MY PUBLICATION CONTAIN A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FROM BEGINNING TO END, INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO THE LEGISLATURE, EXACT COPIES OF WHICH WILL BE SUBMITTED BY THE COMMITTEE TO THE LEGISLATURE WITH ITS REPORT,—WILL BE IDENTICAL THEREWITH IN EVERY PARTICULAR, LINE FOR LINE, PAGE FOR PAGE,—AND IS HEREBY UNRESERVEDLY GUARANTEED TO BE THE GENUINE OFFICIAL REPORT OF THIS LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE'S PROCEEDINGS.

(b) That we will send to you, express prepaid, the complete work on THIRTY DAYS APPROVAL, and also upon the express condition that if the BRANDOW PRINTING COMPANY'S statements are, IN YOUR OPINION, TRUE, you will return our volumes to us at our expense.

(c) For the purpose of facilitating your comparison, we will deposit with a responsible law firm of your city a complete set of the Legislative Committee's official publication, properly authenticated.

(4) If, upon receipt of this report, it is not found in EVERY WAY to be as represented, you may return the same, at your convenience, at our expense.

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Regular binding is the best quality of tan law canvas *Sheep, 60c., and Morocco, $1.00 per volume additional*

LEGISLATIVE REPORTING CO., 63-65 WALL STREET, NEW YORK CITY

GEORGE A. HENDERSON, PRESIDENT

New England Mutual Life Insurance Company

87 MILK STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

BENJ. F. STEVENS, President. DANIEL F. APPEL, Secretary.
ALFRED D. FOSTER, Vice-President. WM. B. TURNER, Asst. Secy.

SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL STATEMENT

JANUARY 1, 1906.

ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS.

Assets	$40,702,691.55	Increase	$2,378,268.82
Liabilities	36,600,270.95	Increase	1,961,974.47
Surplus	$4,102,420.60	Increase	$416,294.35

INCOME.

Premiums	$5,749,519.18	Increase	$410,291.97
Interest and Rents	1,721,758.94	Increase	90,050.19
Total	$7,471,278.12	Increase	$500,342.16

PAYMENTS TO POLICYHOLDERS.

Death Claims	$2,287,715.67	Increase	$208,384.87
Endowments	391,824.00	Increase	104,954.00
Dividends and Cash Values	1,195,391.01	Increase	102,161.43
Total	$3,874,930.68	Increase	$415,500.30

INSURANCE ACCOUNT.

New Business, paid-for basis	$21,444,523	Increase	$2,395,297
Total Insurance in force, paid-for basis	164,728,147	Increase	10,799,999

NEW YORK BRANCH OFFICE:

S. H. WHITELEY, Manager. J. B. WHITON, Cashier. 220 BROADWAY, ST. PAUL BUILDING.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. HERBERT H. WHITE, Secretary.
HENRY S. ROBINSON, Vice-President. DANIEL H. WELLS, Actuary.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

Vol. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1906. No. 8.

Published every Saturday by the Underwriter Printing and Publishing Company.
Subscription price: Five Dollars per annum in advance.
All communications should be addressed to The Weekly Underwriter, 58 William Street, New York.
Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of The Weekly Underwriter.
Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

The service of John A. McCall to life insurance was paralleled only by that rendered by Mr. Winston of the Mutual and the late Henry B. Hyde. Like theirs it was grandly constructive, and resulted in developing the means by which a vast number of people were enabled to profit by the benefits of life insurance. His own share in this labor was evidenced in the greatness of the New York Life insurance company. In the presence of that consummation those details of administration for which he was inconsiderately censured by a press manufactured public opinion fade into insignificance. Mr. McCall is represented as saying in his dying moments that he had never as president of his company designedly wronged a human being. He spoke the truth. The expenditures for which he was condemned represented a conscientious effort to protect the interests of the policyholders from what, in one case—in common with millions of his fellow citizens—he conceived to be a great catastrophe, and in the other from threatened injurious legislation. He may have been in error in regarding these dangers as menacing, but we, for one, do not think so. When the passions of the hour have passed, and the life work of John A. McCall comes into its right of fair and rational judgment, his sincerity and his faithfulness, as well as his surpassing ability, will be the testimony of all men.

The superior air of the daily press in its homilies on the career of John A. McCall recalls that of Mr. Pecksniff when he felt it necessary to speak of the conduct of his fellow creatures. The daily press is willing to admit that the late president of the New York Life insurance company possessed qualities worthy of respect, such as unselfish devotion to his trust, sincerity of purpose and great ability; but it is constrained to express its sorrow that he yielded to temptation to do wrong, and with a perverted sense of propriety was unable to see his error and even defended it. This has reference principally to the use of the company's funds, through Andrew Hamilton, to influence legislation for the protection of the policyholders. The humbug and pretense of this criticism lie in the fact that every mother's son of these moralists would have done precisely as McCall did had he been in his place and confronted with his difficulties. It is safe to say that if a Trust for the cornering of wood pulp threatened to obtain possession of the Legislature the newspapers would have a lobby at work at Albany in no time, disbursing a fund raised for the purpose of defending their interests. Of course, it is wrong to bribe legislators; but if we are all in the same boat and use the same means to protect ourselves, let us at least refrain from the hypocrisy of censuring the insurance managers for being participants in our common wickedness. We are more consistent when we go to church and ask the good Lord to have mercy on *us* miserable offenders. If the daily press really regrets conditions in the legislatures which force the employment of lobbies by insurance companies, railroad companies and daily newspaper companies, let it scold the people for their supineness in allowing bad men to represent them at the State capitals. The people need to be jacked up for their "low moral conception of duty." Likewise the daily newspapers need to house-clean themselves—particularly of cant. The spectacle of a yellow journal throwing stones at a "yellow dog" fund is wearisome.

Congestion naturally follows the precipitation upon the community of a report of 319 pages, with twenty-five bills, by the Armstrong Committee, and it will take even the most assimilative brain to digest the contents under several days. The first general impression produced by the sight of such a mass of words is that the committee has tried to do too much. A second thought following from an examination of the recommendations alone is, that the proposed remedial measures are very sweeping, and would, if they could be put on the statute books, practically reconstruct the life insurance business, and not in some instances to its advantage. That certain provisions will be strongly opposed not only by the companies but by other financial interests may surely be expected. There can be no reasonable opposition to the prohibition of syndicate operations by officers and directors in connection with their companies, nor to the forbidding of contributions to political campaign funds out of company assets. The creation of new assessment organizations ought to have been stopped long ago. But the limitation of new business is of doubtful value and would build up companies refusing to enter New York at the expense of those of this State, and will also be resented by the smaller local companies which are eager to grow. It is well enough to prohibit rebating, but when human nature changes it can be made effective. The accounting for legislative disbursements by voucher and registration would operate to make bribery dangerous. Unfortunately there are ways of evading the law, if legislators are corrupt. The standardizing of policies in the way the committee proposes is well enough, for it admits of considerable elasticity if the Insurance Department is satisfied with deviations from it. The recommendation to legislate all present trustees and directors of life insurance companies out of office and reorganize their boards by new elections, in which voting by proxy is allowed, is startling. Even the daily papers, with their wild guessing, did not anticipate that revolutionary proposition. It will be fought without doubt, as will the voiding of all existing proxies. There will also be a contest over the abolition of future deferred dividends. Too many insurance experts believe in them to yield without a struggle. The abrogation of existing deferred dividend contracts is, of course, unconstitutional, and the committee does not attempt it. Annual accountings of dividends are feasible, but compulsory annual distributions will be opposed. The change that will excite the most attention and probably meet the largest objec-

tion is that of throwing the stock investments of the companies on the market. The committee argues that it can be done in five years without the material disturbance of values. There will be much discussion over this. The committee will give a hearing on March 8, and by that time forces can be alligned. But, as we said, reflections are somewhat chaotic at present. We present a summary of the recommendations of the committee.

Facts and Opinions.

The **American Mutual Life of Chicago**, the company recently organized by George W. Riggs, formerly of the New York Life, has arranged to **reinsure the business of the Western Life Indemnity Company** and place it upon the legal reserve basis. The Western Life Indemnity has sent out the required legal notice to its policyholders, calling a meeting for March 19 to consider the reinsurance contract. Under this its policyholders can change their insurance to any of the plans of the American Mutual Life, giving a lien to make up any deficiencies in reserve. The American Mutual will make its deposit of $100,000 with the Illinois Insurance Department prior to the meeting, and will be prepared to reinsure the business at once, as soon as the contract is ratified. It will immediately enter the States of Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia. Of its authorized capital stock of $500,000 the American Mutual has sold $150,000, and the remainder will be placed directly with the policyholders in connection with new insurance. Six directors from the American Mutual and six from the Western Life will make up the new board of directors, and General George M. Moulton, president of the Western Life, will become the president of the new company. General Moulton is a prominent Chicago business man, and is now grand commander of Knights Templar in the United States. George W. Riggs will become vice president and superintendent of agencies, and E. I. Rosenfeld, manager of the Western Life, will become vice president and general manager. The Western Life has been trying for some time to get under the legal reserve basis, but under the Illinois law it is not possible for this to be done by processes of resolution. The only feasible plan was by reinsurance, and as the American Mutual was on the legal reserve basis and had not yet completed its organization, or written any business, the combination was most convenient. Under the new arrangement Manager Rosenfeld surrenders the contract he had with the Western Life management on a percentage basis, giving it up without compensation, and will work on a salary hereafter.

Suits have been instituted by the Mutual Life insurance company of New York against Richard A. and Robert H. McCurdy, Louis A. Thébaud, Mr. McCurdy's son-in-law, and against Charles H. Raymond, who, with Mr. Thébaud, composed the firm of Charles H. Raymond & Co., metropolitan agents for the Mutual under the old régime. Summonses in the actions were served on Thursday of last week, which was the day on which Stuyvesant Fish resigned from the Mutual's investigating committee, and counsel entered notice of appearance Tuesday. De Lancey Nicoll appears for the McCurdys, and John S. Wise for Messrs. Thébaud and Raymond. Joseph H. Choate and Julien T. Davies appear for the Mutual Life. There are eight actions altogether. They will seek to hold Richard A. McCurdy liable for the $50,000 a year extra salary that he received from 1901 to 1905 with the knowledge of only two of the trustees, and to establish his general liability for an accounting of all the funds of the company improperly spent, including campaign contributions, as well as for the agency contracts. Robert H. McCurdy, Louis Thébaud and Mr. Raymond will also be held to an accounting on all moneys received under the commission contracts they have had with the Mutual Life. It is announced by counsel for the defendants that the suits will be resisted.

It will be seen by the annual statement of the **Union Central Life insurance company** of Cincinnati in another column that the assets of the company now exceed $50,000,000, an increase over the previous year of $6,127,928.63. There was also an increase in income of $1,096,968.15, the total income from premiums, interest and all other sources being $11,269,203.79. The interest receipts, amounting to $2,699,595.38, were largely in excess of the death claims, maturing endowments and annuities paid. The interest realized upon the mean amount of invested assets, as in the previous year, was slightly in excess of 6 per cent. (6.09 per cent.), showing that the Union Central, as heretofore, excelled in this particular probably all other companies. The gross surplus was increased by $1,513,827.86; of this amount there was placed to the credit of the special reserve fund of life rate endowment policies $666,872. The fund to the credit of these policies now amounts to $5,873,375. The net surplus after deducting unadmitted items is $2,518,828.43, from which will be paid all dividends upon participating policies during the current year. Although the business of the past year has been the largest in the history of the company, yet it has been secured at less cost than in any previous year. The net income has been larger, and the ratio of assets to liabilities is greater than ever before.

A Louisville special dispatch to the *Journal of Commerce* says that the **report of the five Western Insurance Commissioners on the examination of the New York Life** insurance company has been completed, and is about to be made public. Deferred dividends are denounced and many drastic recommendations are made. The dispatch says:

> It is understood here, and this is not denied by any one of the commissioners, that the report will embrace a thorough raking over the coals of several of the officers as to the almost prodigal use of other people's money. This applies particularly to the settlement of certain death losses. It is said that a relative of one of the late officers, acting as attorney in the settlement of a death loss amounting to $35,000, was twice paid this sum. There are numerous similar instances, it is said. In this particular case the man indicated occupies a high legal position in the State of New York, and the publication of his name in the report next Friday is likely to cause a sensation in the Empire State. The investigation has occupied a period of nearly five months and represents, it is understood, an expenditure of nearly $50,000. There have been employed in the investigation something like thirty people, including nine actuaries and fifteen appraisers. When the State commissioners undertook the work last September they entered into an agreement to publish the report simultaneously in the five States represented by them. They have selected Friday as the day, hence the impossibility of getting before that time any further statements than that the report will be the most astounding and far reaching of any similar document ever drawn up by an investigating committee. The outline as here given is correct, but it merely presages revelations that are to come.

The *Journalist* estimates the **loss to the daily newspapers in life insurance advertising,** caused by the revolution in company management which their clamor excited, at **a million dollars.** But the self sacrificing souls have the sweet satisfaction of having established Reform. Meanwhile Postmaster General Cortelyou, an old newspaper man himself, takes the following shy at modern daily journalism in a Lincoln's birthday anniversary address:

> There must be liberty of the press everywhere and always. But this liberty affords no warrant for hasty generalizations or unworthy attacks upon interests or individuals. Cases before the courts must be tried there, and not in the newspapers. Every newspaper must be fit for the American home, where purity dwells and honor is sacred. Benjamin Franklin never said a wiser thing than when he uttered the words: "It has long been the opinion of sober, judicious people that nothing is more likely to endanger the liberty of the press than the abuse of that liberty by employing it in

personal accusation, detraction and calumny." Of late years there has developed a style of journalism, happily as yet limited in its scope, whose teachings are a curse and whose influence is a blight upon the land. Pandering to unholy passions, making the commonplace to appear sensational, fanning the fires of sectionalism and class hatred, invading the privacy of our firesides, it presents one of the most important present day problems.

The New York *Herald*, which is a great authority on what is going to take place in the Legislature at Albany, says that now that the labors of the **Armstrong Committee** are at an end the **cost of the work** is being figured. It is conceded that the committee will be obliged to ask the Legislature for $100,000 in addition to the $50,000 already appropriated. It is understood that Mr. Hughes is to be paid $35,000, Mr. McKeen $30,000, Mr. Fleming $10,000 and Mr. M. M. Dawson $10,000. The stenographers' bill is $8,000, and the special printing bill has already had an appropriation of $20,000. The *Herald* adds: "The committee sat during five months and performed greater labor than any similar body within the history of the State. All the members sat out of session without compensation other than actual expenses, and sacrificed their time at great personal loss. Most of the members are lawyers, and their entire fall and winter practice was sacrificed to the public good." Other reports are to the effect that Mr. Hughes expects $75,000 for his services. Why not pass a bill sticking the expense of the investigation on the policyholders of the life insurance companies?

That contingent of the Chicago fire underwriters which opposes any reduction in preferred rates, on the ground that the companies need the money and that it is folly to reduce rates so long as the insured pays them without protesting, is strenuously against the proposition of the board committee, which proposes to grant a reduction for the use of **the 80 per cent. co-insurance clause on preferred business.** It is claimed that the 80 per cent. clause is understood by comparatively few business men, who merely accept it as the regular thing. If, however, it is applied to dwellings and contents they predict an endless amount of trouble, especially with the ignorant and foreigners. They will take the cheapest rate they can get without understanding what is involved, and in case of a loss will follow their usual practice of scheduling at high prices, only to find that they are bearing the greater part of the loss themselves. The opponents urge that the inevitable result of this would be to rouse antagonisms and a demand for legislation which will prevent the use of the co-insurance clause entirely, as has been attempted in several States.

The field men of New England have sustained the loss of an able underwriter and lovable companion by the **death of Henry R. Turner,** general agent of the City of New York Fire insurance company, who passed away at the Corey Hill Hospital, Brookline, Mass., last Sunday. About a month ago he had been operated upon for tuberculosis of the peritoneum. Mr. Turner was born in Norwich, Conn., not quite fifty-nine years ago, and gained his first insurance experience in the service successively of the Thames, the Yonkers and the New York fire insurance companies. He then became general agent of the Fairfield, Conn., Fire, and later its secretary. In 1880 he was appointed general agent for New England, excepting Connecticut, of the Niagara Fire, and held that position for fourteen years. In 1894 he was appointed special agent for New England of the Greenwich, continuing as such until the retirement of that company, and then entered the service of the City of New York Fire, in which he remained until his end.

In an article on **"Lloyds' Fire Policies"** in the Manchester *Policyholder* Mr. P. B. Carphin, of the Sun Fire Office, points out that when it is necessary to sue on a Lloyds policy each signer must be sued separately, as each is responsible for his proportion of the risk only and not for his co-insurers. There are sometimes a hundred or more underwriters' names on a single policy. In practice if any of the co-insurers are tardy in paying their shares of a loss there is a consequent delay in its settlement. Moreover, suits must be brought in London, where litigation is more expensive than elsewhere. As certain brokers for Lloyds are seeking for American business, with the avowed purpose of cutting rates for it, it would be well for the public wanting fire insurance to understand just what they are buying. Deposits from Lloyds underwriters are only required by the institution for the guarantee of marine losses. While some underwriters taking fire risks give guarantee bonds to the general committee, all do not, and the amounts for which those who do guarantee may be held are never published.

Mainly because of the exposure from the long warehouse and dock section, where frame buildings, open at the sides, would give a big sweep to the flames, the city of **Portland, Ore.,** is in bad shape from the **fire hazard** standpoint. The Committee of Twenty of the National Board of Fire Underwriters lays special emphasis on this feature in its report on conflagration dangers there. The report says that while the fire department is under able officers it is only moderately efficient. The engine companies are few in number as well as undermanned, and only two of them have engines large enough. In several important points the building department laws are defective, the report says. This is what the report has to say about conditions in the congested value district:

The features most affecting the conflagration hazard are the compactness of the blocks, poor construction, absence of cutoffs, prevalence of unprotected vertical openings, frequency of conflagration breeders in surroundings conducive to the spread of fire, numerous bad blocks grouped undesirably, comparatively narrow streets and the exposure of the city by the warehouses and docks along the river, most of which are open underneath or at the sides.

The predecessor of Mr. McCall as president of the New York Life insurance company, **William H. Beers,** was seventy years old when he died, but until his trouble came in connection with the management of the company he had the vitality and bearing of a man of fifty-five. Mr. Beers resigned February 8, 1892, and died November 16, 1893, from nervous prostration, from which he had suffered almost from the day of his resignation. In announcing to the manager and agents of the company the death of Mr. Beers, President McCall said:

Mr. Beers had reached and passed the age allotted to man, and yet his sprightliness and activity of thought were characteristics that robbed his years of time's usual accompaniments. His kindly face and gentle tone will often be in our memories, and the moulded earth that marks his resting place will be moistened by the tears of many to whom he was endeared. To the sorrowing relatives only the consolation of the Great Lord and Master will avail. The assurance of sympathetic friends will not be wanting, nor will the place of his sepulture be neglected by them.

An arrangement has been consummated by which **George H. Bunce,** for over thirty years one of the best known agents of Providence, R. I., has taken his companies and business to the office of G. L. & H. J. Gross, where the business will be cared for under the name of George H. Bunce & Co. The arrangement will not conflict in any way with the varied lines of business conducted by the Gross office, and Mr. Bunce does not in any way lose his identity with his companies or customers. By the transfer a large number of leading companies are brought together, the facilities of each agency materially increased and patrons should receive, if possible, better service.

That the **principal is not liable for its agents' acts** of which it had no information is the gist of a decision handed down

by Judge Barker in the Kentucky Appellate Court in the case of the United States Life vs. the Commonwealth. The opinion reversed the ruling of the lower court in the action, which was to recover under the statute prohibiting rebating a fine imposed for a rebate on a $10,000 life policy. The policy in question was issued to Ford Brent by a sub-agent, E. R. Odor. The facts failed to disclose in the record that the rebating was known by General Agent Dorsey. The court followed the case of the Equitable vs. the Commonwealth, 28 Kentucky Reporter, and held that the company cannot be held criminally liable for acts of its agents unless it has previous information and has assented to the transaction.

The **disastrous fire** which wiped out six business blocks in the business heart **of Rutland, Vt.**, last Sunday, was clearly the result of an undermanned fire department, but eight permanent and twenty call men being available. This danger was pointed out something like a year ago in a report made by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, but no attention seems to have been paid to it, and the Rutland authorities are now in full cry "investigating" conditions that were brought to their notice long ago but not heeded. The latest reports put the total property loss at $500,000, about $315,000 of which is covered by insurance.

Following the death last week of Chief William T. Cheswell, of **the Boston fire department,** John A. Mullen has been chosen to fill that position. He was first appointed to service in the department in 1874, when he was but twenty-four years old, and his fitness for the work was apparent almost from the first. In 1881 he was promoted to be a captain, in 1885 he was made a district chief, and in 1897 second assistant chief. He was raised to the position of assistant chief in March, 1901, and his successive advancement to the head of the department is entirely due to meritorious service.

Had John A. McCall trusted in the sense of justice of the American people; had he considered that the courts would have overturned the unrighteous acts of unrighteous men; had he considered that vicious legislation against life insurance would make of every policyholder a self interested political worker, hot after the scalp of the blackmailing legislator, he would never have countenanced the "yellow dog" fund which in the end of his life stripped him of all his material possessions.—*Trenton, N. J., American.*

Policyholders hot after the scalps of blackmailing legislators would be a pleasing sight, but up to date it exists in the imagination of the simple country editor alone. He is not acquainted much with the habits of policyholders.

There is something curious about the introduction of the **Ames Federal supervision** bill in Congress. The *Baltimore Underwriter* says:

Mr. F. A. Nash, the author of the Ames bill now before Congress, in which he was assisted by Mr. Cutting, the Insurance Commissioner, is much disturbed over doctoring of the bill before it was introduced in the House of Representatives. Everyone knows that Mr. Nash and Mr. Cutting are opposed to national supervision. The bill was intended as a model insurance law for the District of Columbia, and it was so prepared, and the original as sent to Mr. Ames was to that effect. Now it appears to have been introduced as "A bill to provide Federal regulation of insurance." It is up to Mr. Nash and Congressman Ames to discover who doctored the bill.

The examination of witnesses by the grand jury of New York, at the instigation of the District Attorney, in the **Mutual Reserve** case was in progress this week. Ex-Vice President J. D. Wells was among those testifying. The agents of the provident department have held a meeting and denounced the accusations against the officers of the company. On January 15 application by the company to the British authorities for the withdrawal of the company's £20,000 deposit in Great Britain was granted.

The United States Supreme Court on Tuesday declined to pass on the constitutionality of the law of Kentucky authorizing the cancellation of the permit of an insurance company doing business in the State, if it **transferred from the State to the Federal court** any suit against it. The court then dismissed the appeals of the Security Mutual and the Travelers insurance companies, because, the permit having in the meantime expired, the court was without power to administer a remedy.

It has been decided by Justice Gildersleeve, in Special Term of the Supreme Court of New York, that the recently organized **United Surety Company of Baltimore** is entitled to do business in the State of New York. The company has a capital stock of $500,000, with $250,000 surplus. Former State Senator Olin Bryan, of Maryland, is president. Fidelity business, judicial, contract, and official bonds of all kinds, as well as burglary insurance, will be written.

The **Once a Year Club** of insurance journalists held its annual meeting and banquet at Delmonico's on Monday night. At the business meeting the old officers were elected. About forty members were present, and there was much good cheer and good feeling. The report of the committee on investigation will appear in our issue of next week. It would not be safe to allow two such investigating reports as we have just had to appear in the same issue of any paper.

The **fire insurance premiums in Milwaukee** in 1905 were $1,795,024, a gain of $52,000, with a loss ratio of 50 per cent. The local companies write nearly 12 per cent. of the Milwaukee business. The Milwaukee Mechanics leads with $72,743, while the Concordia wrote $54,330 and the Northwestern National $44,582; the Phœnix of Hartford led for the outside companies with $59,428, followed by the Royal with $54,870.

The office of assistant secretary of the accident and liability department was created Wednesday of last week at the annual meeting of the directors of the **Ætna Life insurance company.** Edwin C. Bowen, for ten years connected with the home office of the company, was elected to the position. Dr. Gurdon W. Russell, the company's chief medical examiner, was re-elected to the position for the fifty-fourth time.

The recent **loss in the West Hotel at Minneapolis,** which was supposed to be a fireproof building, has led to the formulation of a new building ordinance in that city which is said to be one of the most stringent in the country. Fire underwriters have been liberally consulted. The inclosure of elevator shafts, fireproofing of openings, extinguishing apparatus and fire escapes are demanded by the new measure.

Articles of incorporation have been filed at Indianapolis, Ind., for the **Jefferson Life insurance company,** said to be the fourteenth in the State. The following incorporators are named: C. P. Williams, Rolla M. Malpas, W. A. Harty, H. H. Woodsmall, C. D. Bowen, J. C. Perry, J. J. Reilly, George N. Cobb, S. Herbert Malpas and Ray Elden Scott. The proposed capital of this little company is $20,000.

At the quarterly meeting of the **Underwriters' Bureau of New England,** which took place in Boston on Wednesday morning, the Northern, London and Lancashire, Atlas, Orient, and Norwich Union fire insurance companies were admitted to membership. The proposed consolidation with the "big bureau" was informally discussed, but no action in furtherance of the matter was taken.

A resolution in memory of John A. McCall was passed at the annual meeting of the **Indiana Association of Life Under-**

writers February 19. The following officers were elected: President, John R. King, Mutual Benefit; vice president, E. L. Killen, Phœnix Mutual; secretary, E. F. Folsom, Massachusetts Mutual, and treasurer, Frank W. Olin, United States Life.

The Governor of **Massachusetts** has appointed William Whitman, chairman of the Policyholders' Protection Committee of the Equitable, and recently appointed a director; former Governor John L. Bates and Fred. H. Nash, former Assistant Attorney General, as the commission of three to **revise the insurance laws** of the Commonwealth.

The **Midland Mutual Life of Columbus, Ohio.**, has completed its organization with $100,000 paid up capital and $50,000 surplus. Dr. W. O. Thompson, president of the Ohio State University, is president, and D. W. Jones superintendent of agencies. Its operations will be confined to Ohio for a time, with special attention to the rural districts.

The transfer is announced by the **Washington Life insurance company** of Mr. Edmund A. Witner from the company's general agency in Maryland and the District of Columbia to New Jersey. Mr. Witner has been engaged in reorganizing the former department, and is now succeeded there by John W. P. Insley and Wade Hampton Insley.

Industrial life insurance agents have formed a local and national organization. Its professed objects are to protect members from unreliable concerns, to provide reliable agents with employment and to secure uniform and increased rates for collecting industrial debts and exemption from lapses on business of twelve months' standing.

The **Life Underwriters' Association of North Carolina** elected the following officers at the annual meeting at Pinehurst Monday: W. H. McCabe, president; R. Y. McPherson, vice president, and P. D. Gold, Jr., secretary. Charles W. Scovel, president of the national association, made an address at the meeting.

Kalamazoo County, Mich., claims the distinction of producing more business for the **Northwestern Mutual Life** in 1905, in proportion to its population, than any other county in the United States. The county wrote $600,000, a feat celebrated by a banquet at Kalamazoo, attended by several from the home office.

Only three **mutual fire insurance companies** remain **in Iowa**, the others having been transferred to the stock basis, and a bill is pending in the Legislature prohibiting the organization of any further companies on that plan. Those that did not reorganize on the stock plan went into the hands of receivers.

Suit has been begun by **J. Clayton Erb** against Robert E. Forster, actuary of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department, for an accounting of moneys received by him in 1905 for actuarial work. Erb claims that he was the real actuary, by appointment of Insurance Commissioner Durham.

Bearing the name of the Virginia city of its birth, the **Alexandria Home Fire insurance company** has been incorporated with a maximum capital of $50,000 and the following officers, all of Alexandria, Va.: W. H. May, president; C. H. May, secretary; J. R. N. Curtin, treasurer.

A committee of the **Cincinnati** Underwriters' Association has reported on a proposition to **regulate the solicitor question**, recommending that solicitors be limited to those who devote their entire time to insurance, excluding the side liners. Considerable opposition has developed.

At the annual meeting of the directors of the **Columbian National Life** of Boston on Monday Francis P. Sears, vice president and treasurer, was elected vice president and comptroller, and William H. Brown, secretary of the company, was appointed secretary and treasurer.

The attorney of the Illinois Insurance Department has given it an opinion that a corporation cannot be organized to transact both the business of life and accident insurance on the **assessment plan under the present Illinois laws** governing assessment associations.

The annual reports of the **fire insurance companies in Michigan** show that the average rate for 1905 was 1.34, compared with 1.03 in 1904. The recent reduction on brick mercantile risks and the application of schedules is given as an explanation for the drop.

Companies responding favorably to the circulars of the National Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents on **overhead writing and non-resident brokers** now number 143, and include all but two of the general agency companies.

The Governor of **New Jersey** this week reappointed David O. Watkins **Commissioner of Banking and Insurance**, and he was on Tuesday confirmed by the State Senate. The term is for three years and expires March 1, 1909.

At the annual dinner of the **New York Association of Life Underwriters** at the Hotel Savoy on next Wednesday night Presidents Peabody, of the Mutual Life, and Morton, of the Equitable, are expected to make speeches.

To do a fire insurance business, the **Insurance Company of the State of Missouri** will soon be incorporated at Jefferson City, Mo., with a capital stock of $200,000 and a $50,000 surplus. C. W. Thomas is the organizer.

At an extraordinary meeting of the **Sea insurance company of Liverpool** this week a resolution was passed authorizing the directors "to carry on the business of fire insurance in addition to that of marine insurance."

An effort is being made to organize a **salvage corps at Denver**, the work being in charge of a committee of the Mountain Field Club. The cost of equipment and maintenance is being investigated.

Application of the **Wabash Fire of Hammond, Ind.**, to do business in Arkansas has been refused by the State Auditor. The Wabash is a new name for the notorious Fort Wayne insurance company.

At a meeting of the directors of the **Ætna Life insurance company**, held last Wednesday, E. C. Bowen was appointed assistant secretary of the accident department, a new officer in the company.

The **absorption** of the Westminster and General Life of London by the Guardian of London, and the Provident Life and County Fire by the Alliance of London is announced.

The Southern Fire of Lynchburg, Va., and the Spring Garden of Philadelphia have been licensed **to do business in Tennessee.**

The **Planters' Mutual** Insurance Association **of Little Rock**, Ark., has changed its name to the Planters' Fire insurance company.

Both Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin, and Governor Cummins, of Iowa, have definitely declined to serve on

Lawson's raiding committee. They are either too busy or too wise.

The Boston agency of the **County Fire of Philadelphia** will be transferred from Gilmour & Coolidge to Rice & Whitney.

The date of the **next meeting of the Western Union** has been fixed as April 11 and 12, at Atlanta, Ga.

The **Bankers Life of New York** has also withdrawn from Massachusetts.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Ben Franklin of Allegheny and Metropolitan of Chicago: Newman & McBain, of New York, agents for the metropolitan district.

Delaware of Dover: Benswanger & Hast, agents at Pittsburgh.

Eagle Fire of New York: John L. Coleman, general agent for Kentucky outside of Louisville.

Empire State Surety: Davis, Hinig & Co., of Cleveland, Ohio, general agents for northeastern Ohio.

Hanover Fire: H. M. Power, of Waller, Chandler & Gray, Cook County special.

Humboldt Fire of Allegheny, Pa.: Percy B. Dutton, of Rochester, N. Y., general agent for New York State, exclusive of metropolitan district.

National Life of the U. S. A.: Harry T. Sawyer, recently with the American Temperance Life at Pittsburgh, general agent for western Pennsylvania.

Providence-Washington: J. A. Mavon, special agent in Illinois and Indiana.

United Surety Company of Baltimore: Augustus F. Shen, general agent for Buffalo and vicinity.

Washington Life: E. A. Whittier, New Jersey manager, with headquarters at Newark; Insley Brothers, managers at Baltimore; Justin M. Williams, Georgia and Florida, manager, with headquarters at Atlanta.

President Benjamin F. Stevens, of the New England Mutual Life insurance company, has been seriously ill with bronchitis at his home, in Boston. He is confined to his bed, but his physician says that, despite his advanced years, he is getting along favorably. For nearly sixty years Mr. Stevens has been connected with the New England Mutual Life insurance company, and has served as its president for more than half a century. He passes his vacations abroad, having made twenty-one trips across the Atlantic.

Mr. H. S. Vail, of Chicago, has been made consulting actuary for the Wisconsin Legislative Investigating Committee, which is looking into the Wisconsin life insurance companies. There is criticism of this appointment, as Mr. Vail has for a long time had a controversy with the Northwestern Mutual Life over commissions, and has repeatedly sought to organize the Chicago policyholders to elect him a director.

Mr. Richard W. Kuhn, special agent for the Royal in the mountain field, died on Wednesday at his home in Denver after a short illness. Mr. Kuhn had been with the Royal since boyhood, having grown up in the Western general agency in Chicago, entering the field six or seven years ago.

Mr. Frederick N. Newland, Elmira, N. Y., agent of the Pacific Mutual Life, has been appointed manager for southern New York and northern Pennsylvania for the merged Pacific-Conservative Life of Los Angeles and San Francisco. Binghamton is the headquarters.

Mr. Fraser Clarke, chief accountant of the County Fire Office at London, committed suicide in his office February 16. Only three weeks ago, S. A. Beaumont, managing director of the County Fire, committed suicide under similar circumstances.

Mr. William M. Berger, a local agent at Belan, New Mexico, is working up an organization of a State association of local fire insurance agents. New Mexico at one time formed a part of the Colorado association, but has ceased to be a factor.

Mr. William Muir, who on Monday entered on his new duties as president of the Union insurance company of Philadelphia, has been presented with a handsome silver loving cup by the employees of the Philadelphia Fire Association.

Ex-President Richard A. McCurdy will sail for Paris on March 1, according to a statement made in Morristown, N. J. He is going abroad with his wife and his son-in-law, Louis A. Thebaud.

Mr. J. J. McDonald, Western manager of the Connecticut Fire at Chicago, is preparing to take a trip to Japan. He will go in March, and expects to be gone several months.

Mr. James W. Alexander, ex-president of the Equitable Life, underwent two surgical operations in New York this week, with uncertain results up to this time of writing.

Mr. William H. McIntyre, formerly fourth vice president of the Equitable Life, has been elected president of the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railroad, of Texas.

Mr. Elmer G. Stearns, a Bowling Green, Ohio, insurance agent, was killed February 12, by a fast train on the Ohio Central. He was fifty-three years of age.

Mr. Henry Seymour Hubbell, a prominent Canandaigua, N. Y., insurance man, died at his home there February 11, after an illness of two years.

Insurance Commissioner Host, of Wisconsin, has formally declined to be a candidate for the Republican nomination of Mayor of Milwaukee.

Mr. H. D. Anthony, agency superintendent of the Norwich Union Fire, and secretary of the Indemnity Fire of New York, has resigned.

Mr. H. R. Earle has resigned as agency director of the New York Life at Detroit, to engage in other business.

Mr. Walt Butler has resigned the secretaryship of the Acme Life of Des Moines, Ia.

Death of John A. McCall.

John Augustine McCall, late president of the New York Life insurance company, died at the Laurel House, Lakewood, N. J., on Sunday afternoon at 5:35 o'clock. He was unconscious for nearly eighteen hours before he expired. His last recorded utterances were to his family at his bedside, when he said: "The end is near. I feel it coming. I go to my rest happy, for I am firm in my faith in God and have lived a life for which I am not ashamed." At the last moment his wife and all his children, and his brother, Justice McCall, were with him. The official statement of the cause of his death attributes it to cirrhosis of the liver. This ailment may have been latent in Mr. McCall's system, but there can be no doubt that if he had not been subjected to the mental distress caused by the results of the late legislative investigation there would have been no immediate development of an acute form of the disease, and with his vigorous constitution he would probably have lived many years longer. He died a victim of the intemperate clamor of an unthinking public hounded by a notoriety mongering press.

Mr. McCall was a native of Albany, N. Y., the son of a respectable tradesman who was not in a position to render him special assistance in advancement. He was educated in the public schools and a commercial college of Albany, from which he was graduated in 1865. He had a keen liking for mathematics, and excelled in that acquirement. A place was found for him in the assorting house for State currency at $10 a week, and he gradually rose by merit to a salary of $900 per annum. Then he became a bookkeeper in the agency of the Connecticut Mutual Life insurance company. In 1870, when about twenty-one years of age, Mr. McCall received an appointment in the actuarial branch of the State Insurance Department at Albany. Two years later he had worked his way through the actuarial and statistical department, and a year later he was made examiner of companies, a responsible position for a man of his age. In 1876 he became deputy superintendent, being reappointed in 1877 and again in 1880.

During the next two or three years Mr. McCall made a reputation as an investigator of the internal workings of several life and fire insurance companies. As a result eighteen life insurance companies in New York State and fifteen in other States were declared insolvent and were prohibited from continuing business. In some instances he disclosed startling frauds, and the officers of the American Popular, Security and Continental Life insurance company were indicted and found guilty of perjury.

At the request of well known business interests of the State, irrespective of party lines and entirely independent of political influences, Mr. McCall was appointed by Governor Cleveland Superintendent of the Department of Insurance. He displayed as chief of the department the same remarkable executive force and ability that had developed during his earlier connection with it.

Mr. McCall declined a reappointment as Insurance Superintendent when his term expired in 1885, and accepted an offer from the Equitable Life Assurance Society to become its comptroller at a salary of $15,000 a year. Seven years later came the trouble in the New York Life insurance company, and William H. Beers, the president, resigned. There was a strong call from the trustees and policyholders of the company for Mr. McCall to take the succession. His election was hailed with satisfaction by the financial world, for it was believed that he was the right man to straighten out the affairs of the company and place it on the road to prosperity. Such proved to be the case. The growth of the New York Life

under the administration of John A. McCall has been one of the marvels of life insurance history.

When Mr. McCall resigned the presidency of the company on January 1 he said:

At the close of 1905 I have been in life insurance as clerk and as State and company official for forty years. I have been president of this company fourteen years. They have been fourteen very busy years. The results show that. It is no exaggeration to say that the progress of this company during that time has been little less than astonishing. The progress has been real progress, too. The work has been well done. Risks have been soundly selected; assets have been wisely invested.

In the period of my services as president I have made mistakes. It is easy to see mistakes after events have fully developed the situation. Anyone can be wise then, but when facing great problems daily it is not so easy to be inerrant. My errors probably seem greater to me today than they seem to any even tolerably just critic; but, notwithstanding that, I am not without comfort. My consolation comes from these considerations:

First, the unprecedented achievements of the company.

Second, that no officer or trustee has profited improperly during that time to the extent of a dollar at the expense of the policyholders.

It is perhaps enough to say this of the achievements of my administration: We have kept the company intact, as it was when I became its head; and, at the close of 1905, have added net to the company as it stood at the end of 1891 a volume of outstanding insurance which, in round figures, equals $1,480,000,000. This total, gathered in fourteen years, approximates the entire outstanding insurance of the Mutual Life at the close of its sixty-second year, and is very close indeed to the outstanding insurance of the Equitable at the close of its forty-sixth year.

The progress of the company during my presidency can best be shown by the following tables:

	Dec. 31, 1891.	Dec. 31, 1905.
Assets	$125,947,290	$435,000,000
Income	31,354,194	102,000,000
Dividends of year to policyholders	1,260,340	5,000,000
Total payments of year to policyholders	12,671,491	40,000,000
Number of policies in force	182,803	1,000,000
Insurance in force, premiums paid	575,689,649	2.061,000,000

The achievements of a lifetime, if judged by ordinary standards, have been crowded into that period of fourteen years.

The remains of Mr. McCall were removed on the day after his death from Lakewood to his late residence, No. 54 West Seventy-second street, New York, where they lay in state until the day of the funeral. Here they were viewed by nearly 1,000 people, largely employees of the New York Life. The emotion of most of those who took part in this last farewell was a token of the affection and deep reverence with which the late president was regarded by his associates in the company. Business was suspended at the company's offices on Tuesday afternoon at 3.30 o'clock, and they continued closed until after the day of the funeral.

The funeral services were held at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Seventy-first street and Broadway, on Wednesday, beginning at half past 10 in the morning. A solemn requiem mass was celebrated by Father Matthew Taylor, the pastor, assisted by other clergymen. Bishop Burke, of Albany, who married Mr. and Mr. McCall more than thirty-six years ago and baptized each of his seven children, was present. A great throng crowded the church, and hundreds of people were unable to obtain admission. The pallbearers were Alexander E. Orr, who succeeded Mr. McCall in the presidency of the company; ex-Vice President George W. Perkins, Treasurer Edmund D. Randolph, Second Secretary Seymour M. Ballard, Auditor John C. Whitney, George Austin Marsh, Dr. S. Oakley Vanderpoel and President John R. Hegeman, of the Metropolitan Life insurance company. The interment was at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Mr. McCall is survived by his wife, who was the daughter of John Haron, of Albany; five sons and two daughters, one of the latter being the wife of First Vice President Darwin P. Kingsley, of the New York Life insurance company.

Resolutions Adopted by the Once a Year Club of Insurance Journalists.

At the annual meeting of the Once a Year Club on Monday evening the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, That the members of the Once a Year Club, representing the insurance newspapers of the United States, do hereby place upon record an expression of their love and admiration for Mr. John A. McCall, notice of whose death has been received by them with feelings of the deepest sorrow. He was a martyr to his duty as he saw it, a great and successful factor in the insurance world, a genial gentleman in his social relations, while his domestic life was as pure as it was beautiful. His death is a loss to the community at large and is viewed by this organization with profound regret.

Resolved, That the chair appoint a committee of five to attend the funeral of the honored deceased.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be suitably engrossed with the signatures of members and sent to the family of the deceased with the assurance of their sincere sympathy.

"Man's Inhumanity to Man."

(*The Insurance Press.*)

The brave man who died in Lakewood last Sunday, crushed by cruel criticisms, the heartless hounding of a wolfish press and treachery in his own official household, gave voice, on his deathbed, to a few simple sentences that go straight to the hearts of decent people.

John A. McCall's unshaken confidence in his long-time friend and business associate, Andrew Hamilton, his declaration, during his last days of life, of high esteem and affection for Hamilton have a ring of steadfastness and loyalty, of one man to another, that human beings with warm blood in their veins like. More than anything he could have said, in health and vigor, these expressions—while his life was ebbing away—demonstrate McCall's conviction that the much condemned expenditures for watching legislation were necessary and justifiable, in view of conditions that have long existed and for which neither he nor any other corporation executive had or has any responsibility. It is as easy to harass policyholders of life insurance companies by taxation as it is to burn barns. The guerrillas of legislation know this and they may have exacted and received tribute, at times, as the price of keeping their unholy hands off the money of widows and orphans.

"I have done many things in my life that I am sorry for, but I have never done anything that I am ashamed of," McCall said at Lakewood. Not even policyholders of life insurance companies can demand of a man that he be infallible. And policyholders must search long and far to find one who has labored in their interest so faithfully and effectively as John A. McCall. His mistakes, such as they were, weigh light in the balance against an immense work performed for the welfare of the insured.

Yellow dogs, ravenous wolves and sneaking hyenas are sniffing at the doors of corporations all the time. How numerous, disgusting and bloodthirsty they are probably no one can know who is not an executive of a great corporation. Nevertheless smart Alecks have no difficulty in deciding just what the president of a life insurance company ought to do and ought not to do. But after all they are only smart Alecks. Aaron Burr was sure that he was a greater general than George Washington. "Bigger men than old Grant" were numerous. So, in their own minds, innumerable shysters (lawyers, editors and legislators), crank reformers, and talkee-talkee persons are more competent to run life insurance companies than trained life insurance men. But no one else is of that opinion.

The New York Life was magnificently administered by John A. McCall. It was his duty as president to direct—and to take responsibility. He never shirked his duty. In his testimony before the Armstrong Committee he was eager to assume responsibility and to shield others. Yet no well informed man will believe that expenditures—now said by the trustees to have been unauthorized technically—were not as fully known and approved by prominent trustees as by Mr. McCall.

As a superior officer, employer, business associate, he never

tried to add to his own glory by wresting or borrowing the laurels of others. It was always his pleasure to recognize good work and reward it, to award praise where it was due and to extend a helping hand to capable and aspiring men. He did not place upon the shoulders of others blame or criticism that he could take upon himself. Such a man often goes too far in saying, "I alone am responsible."

A few weeks ago he was strong in body and mind. The anxieties and humiliation due to unceasing attacks upon his integrity, the cruel injustice of a thousand lies, daily repeated, broke down his health at last. He was done to death by the thugs of yellow journalism aided by the treachery of the Fowler Committee. For murder wrought in this way the statutes provide no punishment.

Thus one of the greatest figures of American life insurance has gone to the grave before his proper time, and life insurance has suffered a loss that will measure large. McCall was never better equipped to serve the policyholders than when he laid down the presidency of the New York Life. There was not a man in America who could have done so much to straighten out the tangles in which the members of mutual insurance companies are involving themselves or being involved by others as John A. McCall.

There is no lack of persons who knew him for what he was and who have never failed to respect his ability, his honesty and his unselfish courage. There is no danger that his reputation will suffer permanently, or even temporarily, for while the malicious and the uninformed may have listeners, the sterling qualities of the man and the visible evidences of a great and beneficent work have a voice that will rise above the screech and bellowings of a hysterical era. And that voice cannot be stilled while right and decency have a standing on earth.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

DES MOINES, Ia., February 16.—The Iowa House of Representatives today passed a rigid anti-firecracker bill. The measure makes it a misdemeanor punishable by fine and imprisonment in the county jail to discharge firecrackers, toy pistols and other explosives on July 4. The law applies to the entire State of Iowa.

DES MOINES, Ia., February 20.—House Bill No. 282 has been introduced by the Committee on Insurance to require an annual apportionment and accounting of surplus of life insurance companies.

New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., February 20.—Senator Minturn introduced last night joint resolution No. 15, providing that the Governor appoint three Assemblymen and two Senators to act as a committee during the legislative recess to investigate fire insurance abuses, and suggest remedial legislation to ascertain whether a trust exists and the cause of the present exorbitant rates.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 20.—Assemblyman Lupton today introduced a bill amending Section 137 of the insurance law relative to licenses to agents in excepted cases so as to provide that the affidavits required to be filed with the Insurance Department shall not set forth among other things that the party desiring insurance is unable to procure insurance "at the same rate of premium at which such insurance can be procured of insurance companies organized under the laws of other States and transacting business under the supervision of the Insurance Department of such State, and having a cash capital or surplus and cash assets amounting to at least $100,000, but which are not authorized to do business in this State. The provisions of this act shall apply to reinsurance obtained by any insurance company authorized to transact business in this State on property located within this State as fully as if the property reinsured were insured by the owner thereof in the company reinsuring."

Assemblyman Cox, of Erie, introduced a bill requiring assessment corporations of other States before transacting business in this State to file with the Superintendent of Insurance a certificate from the insurance authorities of the State where said corporation is organized setting forth that it is legally entitled to transact business, and that assessment corporations of this State may do business in that State.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 22.—Apart from the introduction of several bills, the one topic of interest in the Legislature this week relating to insurance was the presentation of the report and accompanying bills of the Armstrong Investigating Committee.

Chairman Armstrong announced that a public hearing before the joint committee would be held in the Assembly chamber on the afternoon of March 8 on the several measures submitted by the committee. Meantime, they will hold their place on the general orders calendar of the Senate, and will be kept in the custody of the Assembly Standing Insurance Committee.

[For synopsis of the Armstrong Committee bills see summary of the committee's report on another page.—ED.]

Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, February 15.—Mr. Thompson has introduced House Bill No. 332 regulating the distribution of surplus of life insurance companies.

South Carolina.

The only insurance legislation of the session just closed was the passage of the Warren bill, requiring suits to be brought in the counties where the losses occur, and the Marshall bill, requiring the payment of certain pensions to the fire departments of incorporated cities and towns by fire insurance companies doing business in the State.

Texas.

AUSTIN, Tex., February 17.—Governor Lanham announced today that he would call the Texas Legislature in special session March 26. The Governor would not state at this time what his call will include for legislative action.

United States Congress.

WASHINGTON, February 19.—Representative Mann (Rep., Ill.) today introduced a bill to declare the business of insurance interstate commerce. The bill provides that insurance companies may apply to the Commissioner of Corporations of the Department of Commerce and Labor to be registered, and requires that before passing upon the application the commissioner shall inquire into the business of the company and ascertain its financial standing and ability to fulfill its obligations, and if found to be satisfactory to issue a certificate to that effect.

Insurance companies are required to furnish the department an annual statement of their business and financial condition, and the commissioner may at any time cause an examination of any company to be made to which he has issued a certificate. He is required to make an examination at least once in three years and as much oftener as he deems necessary.

Whenever a company admitted to registry shall upon examination be found to be doing an illegal business or be in unsound

condition, it must "make good" or desist from its illegal business within sixty days under penalty of cancellation of its certificate. After a certificate has been cancelled it is declared to be unlawful for a company to advertise or make use of its certificate, and in case of violation of this provision the Postmaster General is empowered to deny the company the use of the mails.

The bill applies to all forms of insurance doing business outside of the "State of its domicile."

On a motion to suspend the rules and pass Mr. Crumpacker's bill authorizing the Census Bureau to collect insurance statistics there was a spirited debate, but the bill was passed by a vote of 72 to 60.

Virginia.

Senate Bill No. 338, introduced by Mr. Sale, provides that the specific license tax upon every insurance company for the privilege of doing business in the State shall be $200 a year, and in addition thereto a sum equal to 1¼ per centum upon the gross amount of all assessments, premiums, dues and fees collected or received, or obligations taken therefor, derived from its business in that State.

Senate Bill No. 340, introduced by Mr. Sale, makes it unlawful for any life insurance company other than a beneficial order or sick benefit company to insure or cause to be insured the life of any child under the age of twelve years.

Miscellany.

Report of the Armstrong Investigating Committee—Summary of the Recommendations for Legislation.

The report of the committee appointed by the Legislature of New York last year to investigate the affairs of life insurance companies, of which Senator Armstrong is chairman, made a report to the Legislature on Thursday. The report is contained in a volume of 319 pages, of which 245 pages are devoted to a statement of facts elicited by the investigation of seventeen companies, twelve pages to a review of the work of the State Department of Insurance, and the remaining pages to recommendations for remedial legislation. Twenty-five bills are ready for presentation to the Legislature, and eight accompany the report. The others will probably be sent in by next Monday.

The elaborate statement of the testimony elicited by the investigation was prepared by Messrs. Hughes and Fleming. It contains practically every important detail of the evidence taken, and covers the following companies: Mutual Life, New York Life, Equitable Life, United States Life, Manhattan Life, Washington Life, Germania Life, Home Life, Bankers Life, Provident Savings Life, Mutual Reserve Life, Security Mutual Life, Life Association of America, Life Insurance Club of New York, Empire Life, Metropolitan Life and Prudential.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

The following is a summary of the recommendations of the committee:

1. Proxy Voting.—All existing proxies should be declared void, and a special law be passed fixing the expiration of the term of office of all trustees of mutual life insurance companies for November 15 next. Proxies should be revocable at pleasure, but should be required to be given within two months of the annual election, and should be valid only for that election. Policyholders should have appropriate means of learning who are their fellow policyholders, so that they may readily communicate with each other and effect combinations. The management should name its candidates so that their qualifications for the office of director may be discussed and appraised and the importance of opposition duly estimated. Full opportunity should be afforded for direct and independent nominations by the policyholders, and the company should be compelled to place in the hands of every policyholder a ballot containing the names of all nominees. In order to avoid the possibility of an attempt to forestall opposition by the nomination of unexceptionable candidates and the subsequent substituion of an inferior ticket, the election should be limited to those who have been nominated in a prescribed manner.

With these objects in view, the following plan is recommended: At least five months prior to each election, lists of policyholders having at least $1,000 of insurance in force, properly classified by States and countries, giving names and addresses, but not the amount of insurance, should be filed with the Superintendent of Insurance, and similar lists should be open to inspection at the home office of the corporation. Lists, also open to inspection of policyholders within each State and foreign country, should be filed at the general agencies of the company in such jurisdiction. The above limitation as to the amount of insurance will serve to exclude the holders of industrial policies, who in the Metropolitan Company number several millions. But it seems impracticable to include them in the provision for open lists, although they will retain their voting privilege. Voting should be limited to those who have been insured at least one year before the election, and whose policies are still in force when the election is held. The board of trustees or directors should annually nominate candidates to be voted for at the next election, and should file its nominations with the Superintendent of Insurance at least four months before the election, together with a designation of persons to receive proxies to vote for such candidates.

It should also be provided that any group of 100 members should be privileged to make and file with the Superintendent independent nominations, together with names of persons who will receive proxies to vote for the candidates at least three months before the election. The corporation should be required at least two months prior to the election to mail to each policyholder notice of the election, together with a suitable ballot containing the names of all the candidates whose nominations have been duly filed, with properly addressed envelope inclosed for the return of the ballot. The periods above mentioned have been fixed in order to give opportunity to reach distant policyholders. Votes should be limited to the nominated candidates and suitable provisions should be made for new nominations, and the casting of votes under proxies, in case of the death or incapacity of any person nominated. Provision should also be made for the proper custody of ballots received by mail and disinterested persons should be appointed to act as inspectors of election.

To recapitulate, the law should provide:

For accessible lists of policyholders.

For the nomination of candidates representing the administration.

For independent nominations whenever desired.

For the circulation by the company of ballots containing names of all candidates.

For the cancellation of existing proxies.

For voting either in person, by mail or by proxy, but for the limitation of the life of proxies to two months preceding a given election.

"It is important that this special act should be passed immediately," says the committee.

2. Mutualizing Stock Companies.—The committee says that while the constitutionality of giving to policyholders the right to vote for directors in stock corporations without the unanimous consent of the stockholders has not specifically been adjudged, the recent opinions rendered by the Appellate Division

of the Second Department in the case of Lord vs. Equitable Life Assurance Society favor the concluson that such a law would be sustained. While the determination of its validity must necessarily be left to the courts, the committee believes that all doubt of legislative intention should be resolved by amending the law so as to confer upon the directors of stock life insurance comporations an unmistakable authority to grant to policyholders the right to vote for directors, and thus to have that voice in management to which their preponderate interest justly entitles them. It may not be necessary, as matter of law, but it would more accord with the general sense of equity that such a change should be acquiesced in by a majority of the stockholders, and the committee believes that with an enlightened public sentiment it will not be difficult to obtain such assent. It seems to the committee that an amendment to the insurance law should be enacted, giving to the directors of life insurance corporations with capital stock authority to confer upon policyholders the right to vote for directors with the concurrence of a majority of the stock, and the committee so recommends. Whenever the voting privilege shall be given to policyholders, statutory provision for open lists, nominations and balloting, as in the case of mutual companies, should become applicable.

3. Policyholders May Sue.—Sec. 56 of the insurance law, which prevents a policyholder from bringing a suit against a life insurance company without the consent of the Attorney General, should be repealed.

4. Restriction of Investments.—The investments of life insurance funds in the stock of any corporation, except the public stock of municipal corporations, should be prohibited, and companies owning stock of the prohibited class should be required to unload the same within five years from the end of the present year. The specific recommendations of the committee on this point are as follows:

That no investment in the stock of any corporation shall be permitted, except in public stocks of municipal corporations.

That investments in bonds secured to the extent of more than one-third the value of the entire security therefor by the hypothecation of corporate stocks shall be prohibited.

That no loans shall be made upon stocks and bonds which are not the subject of purchase under the above provisions.

That every company now owning stocks or bonds of the prohibited classes shall be required to dispose of the same within five years from December 31, 1906, and each year prior thereto shall make a reduction of the amount of such investments to an extent approved by the Superintendent of Insurance.

The statute should also forbid all syndicate participations, transactions for purchase and sale on joint account, and the making of any agreement providing that the company shall withhold from sale for any time, or subject to the discretion of others, any securities which it may own or acquire.

It should also be provided that no officer or director should be pecuniarily interested, either as principal, co-principal, agent, or beneficiary in any purchase, sale or loan made by the corporation, except in case of a loan upon his policy.

Foreign companies, that is, companies of other States and countries, should not be entitled to transact business within this State unless their investments are of the same character as those required of domestic corporations.

5. Future Deferred Dividends to Be Prohibited and an Annual Accounting Compulsory.—The committee would not recommend the disturbance of existing contracts, but would urge the prohibition of deferred dividends in the future and provide for an annual accounting and distribution of dividends, said dividends being applied either in the reduction of premiums or the purchase of additional insurance or paid in cash. The committee also believes that mutual companies and stock companies chartered to transact business on the mutual plan or holding themselves out as to transacting business on this basis should be prohibited from writing non-participating policies.

6. Limitation of New Business.—The committee recommends that the new business written by life insurance companies annually be limited to $150,000,000. To prevent the abnormal and too hasty growth of the smaller companies they should be permitted to take only such amount of new business as they may fairly be expected to unite by means of reasonable outlay. The following is the specific recommendation of the commmittee:

From an examination of the course of their business, and having in mind the opportunities which will be afforded to the other companies by the practical cessation of the competition of the three leading companies, the committee recommends that no life insurance corporation doing business in this State (except a corporation more than two-thirds of whose outstanding insurance on December 1, 1905, consisted of industrial insurance) shall in any year beginning with 1907 issue policies in excess of the following prescribed limit:

The limit of new business in any year shall be determined by taking certain percentages of the total insurance in force on the 31st day of December of the preceding year, including only policies upon which the first premiums have been actually received by the company, as follows:

Total insurance less than $50,000,000, no limit.

Total insurance between $50,000,000 and $100,000,000, 30 per cent. thereof.

Total insurance between $100,000,000 and $300,000,000, 25 per cent. thereof.

Total insurance between $300,000,000 and $600,000,000, 20 per cent. thereof.

Total insurance between $600,000,000 and $1,000,000,000, 15 per cent. thereof.

If the total insurance in force shall be in excess of $1,000,000,000, the new business shall not exceed $150,000,000 annually.

Regarding industrial business the committee is of opinion that any company writing industrial insurance and excepted from the above limitations should not be permitted to issue policies in any year, excluding industrial policies, to an amount exceeding 50 per cent. of the total amount of the insurance other than industrial outstanding on the 31st day of December in the year preceding, nor in any event more than $150,000,000.

7. Limitation of Expenses.—The committee does not recommend the limitation of salaries to officers and employees by statute. Total expenses, however, should be kept within the loading. It is recommended that commissions to agents be uniform. The committee, however, does not recommend that the rate of commissions be prescribed by law. Whether a company should pay a salary or a commission, whether it should pay a so called brokerage commission or an initial commission, supplemented by reasonable renewals, are details of the management which should be left to the decision of the directors. Loans to agents should be prohibited.

8. Valuation of Policies.—It is the opinion of the committee that the law as to minimum valuations of policies should be amended as follows:

1. A minimum standard for valuation of policies other than industrial should be established in accordance with the "select and ultimate" method above described.

Any life insurance corporation should be permitted to value its policies according to the American Experience Table of Mortality at a lower rate of interest than that prescribed by the statute, but not lower than 3 per cent. per annum, and with or without reference to the "select and ultimate" method of valuation, but in every case it should be required to report to the Superintendent of Insurance any excess of its valuations over those computed by the legal minimum standard and also the standards used by it in making the same, and it should not be permitted to abandon any standard which it has adopted without the Superintendent's consent.

2. Preliminary term valuation of policies issued after December 31, 1906, should not be permitted.

3. The Superintendent of Insurance should be required to fix a legal minimum standard for the valuation of industrial policies issued after the 1st day of January, 1907, shall be valued.

4. Assessment and co-operative companies should be compelled to maintain at all times a reserve not only equal to the proceeds of one death or disability assessment or periodical call on all policy or certificate holders thereof, but also at least equal to

Life Insurance Payments.

The following is the report of the life insurance companies doing business in the United States to THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER of the death claims and endowments paid by them during the month of January, 1906:

COMPANIES.	Death Claims.	Endowments.	Total Payments.
Ætna Life	$214,597	$251,009	$465,606
American Central, Ind	1,005	------	1,005
Baltimore Life	11,519	11,973	23,492
Boston Mutual	9,573	------	9,573
Central Life	5,500	------	5,500
Citizens Life	------	------	------
†Colonial Life	13,795	------	13,795
Columbia Life	------	------	------
*Columbian National Life	16,240	------	16,240
Connecticut General Life	29,330	7,850	37,180
Connecticut Mutual Life	371,436	19,820	391,256
Des Moines Life	16,000	------	16,000
Equitable Life, New York	------	------	------
Equitahle Life, Des Moines,	29,127	2,558	31,685
Federal Life	------	------	------
Fidelity Mutual	139,418	------	139,418
Franklin Life	22,515	------	22,515
Germania Life	145,859	68,866	214,726
†† Hartford Life	175,534	------	175,534
Home Life	69,804	21,022	90,826
Inter-State Life	9,964	------	9,964
*John Hancock Mutual Life	361,338	9,500	370,838
Manhattan Life	66,044	7,860	73,904
Maryland Life	3,223	------	3,223
Massachusetts Mutual Life	200,672	31,000	231,672
Meridian Life and Trust	------	------	------
*Metropolitan Life	1,416,234	8,400	1,424,634
Michigan Mutual Life	28,001	24,955	52,956
Minnesota Mutual Life	38,992	------	38,992
Mutual Benefit Life	501,243	137,646	638,889
Mutual Life	2,029,952	347,605	2,377,557
Mutual Reserve Life	169,400	------	169,400
National Life U. S. A.	41,225	2,500	43,725
National Life, Montpelier	167,171	62,500	229,671
Nederlands (U. S. Branch)	24,000	------	24,000
New England Mutual Life	------	------	------
New York Life	2,047,061	330,179	2,377,240
Northwestern Mutual Life	799,867	148,053	948,920
Pacific Mutual Life	------	------	------
Penn Mutual Life	309,240	115,175	424,415
Phœnix Mutual Life	92,929	24,677	117,606
Provident Life and Trust	124,642	163,901	288,543
Provident Savings Life, New York	119,550	------	119,550
†Prudential	1,126,661	4,330	1,130,991
Reliance Life	1,000	------	1,000
Security Mutual Life	29,612	------	29,612
Security Trust and Life	9,000	5,151	14,151
State Life	56,000	------	56,000
State Mutual Life	102,870	99,000	201,870
Sun Life of Canada	142,325	55,159	197,484
Travelers	190,366	81,633	271,999
Union Central Life	------	------	------
Union Mutual Life	65,963	3,734	69,697
United States Life	62,547	------	62,547
Washington Life	78,318	47,411	125,729
Canada Life	149,948	30,792	180,740
Totals	$11,936,610	$2,124,260	$13,960,870

* Partially industrial insurance. † Report includes both industrial and ordinary business. †† Report includes death claims and endowments.

Payments Since Organization.

The following table shows the total amount reported paid on death claims and endowments, from their organization to January 31, 1906, inclusive, by the life insurance companies whose monthly reports are printed in THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER:

Date of Organization.	COMPANIES.	Death Claims.	Endowments.	Total Payments.
1850	Ætna Life	$65,995,876	$31,376,602	$97,372,478
1899	American Central, Ind	194,701	------	194,701
1898	Baltimore Life	2,977,320	73,741	3,051,061
1899	Boston Mutual Life	496,768	------	496,768
1896	Central Life	82,605	------	82,605
1904	Citizens Life	14,000	------	14,000
1898	† Colonial Life	434,440	------	434,440
1903	Columhia Life	10,568	------	10,568
1902	*Columhian National Life	261,776	------	261,776
1865	Connecticut General Life	3,713,554	1,283,542	4,997,096
1846	Connecticut Mutual Life	128,076,890	16,734,650	144,811,540
1885	Des Moines Life	1,921,980	------	1,921,980
1859	Equitahle Life, New York	268,529,256	34,016,222	302,545,478
1867	Equitahle Life, Des Moines	1,360,947	305,153	1,666,100
1900	Federal Life	113,505	------	113,505
1879	Fidelity Mutual	12,294,629	------	12,294,629
1884	Franklin Life	2,155,005	------	2,155,005
1860	Germania Life	30,831,964	12,112,834	42,944,798
1867	†† Hartford Life	------	------	175,534
1860	Home Life	15,311,833	4,015,809	19,327,642
1897	Inter-State Life	171,967	------	171,967
1862	*John Hancock Mutual Life	39,299,031	2,202,722	41,501,753
1850	Manhattan Life	34,439,384	5,824,564	40,263,948
1864	Maryland Life	3,025,144	256,364	3,281,508
1851	Massachusetts Mutual Life	29,780,919	4,867,531	34,648,450
1898	Meridian Life and Trust	40,821	------	40,821
1867	*Metropolitan Life	151,842,819	917,540	152,760,359
1867	Michigan Mutual Life	6,858,405	3,325,348	10,183,753
1901	Minnesota Mutual Life	3,922,778	------	3,922,778
1845	Mutual Benefit Life	114,915,415	14,064,653	128,980,068
1843	Mutual Life, New York	344,421,194	72,919,826	406,341,021
1881	Mutual Reserve Life	60,082,266	------	60,082,266
1868	National Life U. S. A.	7,856,079	353,989	8,210,068
1850	National Life, Montpelier	15,448,965	2,820,203	18,269,168
1893	Nederlands Life (U. S. Branch)	1,462,269	1,000	1,463,269
1844	New England Mutual Life	48,790,063	9,644,302	58,534,365
1845	New York Life	239,843,794	54,064,758	293,908,552
1857	Northwestern Mutual Life	86,906,974	21,945,433	108,852,407
1868	Pacific Mutual Life	6,513,236	1,293,912	7,807,148
1847	Penn Mutual Life	42,584,966	8,771,060	51,356,026
1851	Phœnix Mutual Life	26,583,560	5,080,579	31,664,139
1865	Provident Life and Trust	22,213,837	15,469,758	37,683,595
1878	Provident Savings Life, New York	20,721,618	21,955	20,743,573
1876	† Prudential	96,000,634	266,543	96,267,177
1903	Reliance Life	48,798	------	48,798
1887	Security Mutual Life	3,537,248	------	3,537,248
1895	Security Trust and Life	2,728,137	5,151	2,733,288
1894	State Life	1,669,854	------	1,669,854
1845	State Mutual Life	14,235,462	3,342,585	17,578,047
1871	Sun Life of Canada	7,601,218	1,709,179	9,310,397
1866	Travelers	19,024,275	4,556,123	23,580,398
1867	Union Central Life	15,610,469	4,148,258	19,758,728
1849	Union Mutual Life	19,034,659	6,117,136	25,151,795
1850	United States Life	17,466,355	2,465,317	19,931,672
1850	Washington Life	21,939,081	9,458,179	31,397,260
1847	Canada Life	18,730,437	2,491,194	21,221,631
	Totals	2,080,129,748	$358,323,763	$2,427,728,999

* Partially industrial insurance. † Report includes hoth industrial and ordinary business. †† Report includes death claims and endowments.

(Continued from page 142.)

the cost of insurance for all policies in accordance with the American Experience Table of Mortality until the next call or assessment is due and payable over and above all liabilities, including existing death claims.

5. Any reserve provided for by the articles of association, constitution or bylaws, or by the contracts with the members of any life insurance company, should be valued and charged as a liability in accordance therewith.

9. Standardization of Policy Forms.—All life insurance companies doing business in this State should be required to issue policies providing for the ordinary sorts of life insurance simple in form and in clear and concise language. The committee enumerates, as the prevailing forms used by level premium companies, the ordinary life, limited payment life, endowment and term, or those providing for insurance against death during a specific period, and recommends that these shall be the established standard. Other than the standard forms may be submitted to the State Insurance Superintendent, and if approved by him shall be legal. Policies issued by assessment companies are not affected by this provision.

10. Rebating of premiums to the assured should be absolutely forbidden, and the receiving of a rebate, as well as the giving, made a misdemeanor under the code.

11. Surrender Values.—It is not recommended that any change be made in the law with reference to existing contracts. But with regard to new policies it should not be necessary for the policyholder to give notice of his election, but the insurance in absence of notice should be automatically continued for its full amount as long as the reserve on his policy should justify. It should also be provided that the net value of the insurance given upon lapse should not be less than four-fifths of the entire reserve computed according to the legal minimum standard. Waiver of these provisions

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Life Insurance Business in Rhode Island in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report of the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued.		Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905.		Premiums Received.	Losses Incurred.
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		
Ætna	22	$64,342	434	$1,011,865	$27,872	$46,292
Bankers	152	306,633	177	404,308	12,916	1,000
Berkshire	25	67,500	265	503,260	13,289	10,071
Columbian Nat.	228	601,500	277	867,250	29,604	500
Connecticut Gen.	37	150,800	130	333,862	15,692	2,000
Connecticut Mut.	87	154,052	762	1,697,286	44,971	12,451
Equitable	244	436,784	2,415	8,191,852	329,868	51,733
Fidelity Mutual	8	20,493	103	215,843	7,738	------
Hartford	3	7,000	226	328,580	13,629	4,000
Home	27	38,135	190	279,592	11,380	6,335
John Hancock Mut.	1,241	1,272,365	2,119	2,441,537	86,305	20,253
Manhattan	29	54,714	169	508,588	15,773	6,094
Massachusetts Mut.	350	1,220,981	2,304	6,486,067	260,277	34,000
Metropolitan	2,171	1,369,184	8,901	5,600,426	246,901	28,438
Mutual Benefit	101	230,299	837	2,103,129	80,241	53,738
Mutual	97	274,830	3,888	10,545,017	322,023	300,455
Mutual Reserve	10	13,723	161	409,285	12,528	12,000
National	23	73,071	205	362,728	14,328	2,500
New Eng. Mutual	127	287,262	1,185	2,908,774	101,109	78,219
New York	312	732,179	3,523	7,592,347	296,900	94,839
Northwestern Mut.	210	588,500	1,580	4,281,960	173,339	17,660
Penn Mutual	34	122,165	186	614,695	33,475	2,000
Phœnix Mutual	47	127,087	625	1,028,632	38,383	19,430
Provident L. & T.	17	24,184	508	1,074,279	39,398	16,896
Provident Savings	263	308,703	428	592,136	19,814	20,500
Prudential	603	565,407	2,282	2,529,031	102,018	14,159
Reliance	------	------	3	3,000	213	------
Security Mutual	80	147,230	111	203,777	7,770	1,000
Security T. & L.	29	66,160	82	239,040	10,137	250
State Mutual	53	221,965	672	1,808,377	58,275	29,001
Travelers	41	93,383	497	1,595,870	52,598	43,160
Union Central	18	42,500	240	922,524	35,489	1,000
Union Mutual	72	91,757	456	593,988	20,626	4,009
United States	7	15,420	28	40,540	1,237	4,000
Washington	18	33,336	199	356,620	15,289	1,804
Totals, 1905	6,786	$9,823,644	35,358	$68,676,065	$2,551,405	$939,787
" 1904	7,588	11,091,987	34,579	65,351,232	2,414,755	933,994
" 1903	10,100	11,929,322	35,309	62,147,770	2,230,455	1,144,481
" 1902	9,635	9,922,770	31,385	57,104,329	2,009,271	994,627
" 1901	8,866	9,819,522	27,303	52,464,988	1,799,655	1,011,212
" 1900	6,295	9,219,301	22,903	48,563,111	1,573,810	904,404
" 1899	4,447	8,835,760	19,082	44,484,829	1,476,360	1,001,312
" 1898	3,124	5,724,069	16,604	40,077,638	1,252,000	648,069
" 1897	2,797	6,789,085	15,339	38,678,368	1,239,492	426,737
" 1896	2,387	5,609,876	14,341	36,594,202	1,150,591	711,002
INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE BUSINESS IN 1905.						
Columbian Nat.	9,728	$1,280,244	5,416	$730,546	$26,193	$7,907
John Hancock Mut.	21,415	3,156,419	86,296	13,661,440	566,479	169,735
Metropolitan	21,644	4,214,029	132,553	22,545,066	734,391	269,611
Prudential	8,634	1,249,903	25,231	3,563,330	132,281	38,919
Totals, 1905	61,421	$9,900,595	249,496	$40,500,382	$1,459,344	$486,172
" 1904	60,006	9,909,981	234,195	$37,944,994	1,382,693	462,929
" 1903	56,426	9,371,761	219,908	35,478,677	1,295,123	455,837
" 1902	59,773	10,572,981	202,169	32,593,915	1,187,932	395,706
" 1901	60,049	10.453,511	195,928	31,489,102	1,112,916	367,934
" 1900	54,919	9,497,751	180,402	28,465,784	997,127	349,462
" 1899	47,851	6,212,044	160,470	23,097,050	885,597	298,428
" 1898	38,349	6,355,983	140,715	20,675,782	814,711	266,562
" 1897	37,638	5,605,590	130,891	17,476,393	754,652	255,785

Fire Insurance Business in Rhode Island in 1905.

(From a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Companies of Rhode Island.			
Equitable F. and M., Providence	$3,350,461	$31,261	$15,263
Providence Washington, Providence	9,412,918	82,458	21,190
Underwriters at New Eng., Lloyds	1,657,517	8,227	10,130
Total	$14,420,896	$121,946	$46,583
Companies of Other States.			
Ætna, Hartford	$8,133,677	$49.289	$34,323
Agricultural, Watertown	1,435,900	11,527	6,978
Albany, Albany	365,541	4,618	58,285
Alliance, Philadelphia	377,893	4.220	602
American, Boston	550,076	4,357	4,580
American, Newark	2,102,054	23,432	11,521
American Fire, Philadelphia	858,777	10,333	6,897
American Central, St. Louis	773,381	10,041	6,221
Assurance Co. of America, N. Y.	293,238	2,712	1,433
Boston, Boston	1,833,190	22.972	8,416
British American, New York	58,335	634	2,235
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	$249,775	$2,516	$3,114
Buffalo German, Buffalo	870,050	6,706	4,923
Caledonian American, New York	38,318	460	21
Camden Fire, Camden	740,818	9,196	4,852
Capital Fire, Concord	371,059	4,417	3,197
Citizens, St. Louis	1,058,271	8,490	5,951
City of New York, New York	110,593	1,512	------
Commerce, Albany	308,775	3,323	750
Commercial Union, New York	66,235	1,000	318
Concordia, Milwaukee	393,320	4,372	1,425
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	1,504,300	17,795	12,481
Continental, New York	2,848,114	36,090	13,518
Delaware, Philadelphia	590,926	6,852	232
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	118,277	1,240	2
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	566,676	4,815	2,063
Eagle Fire, New York	357,083	3,177	317
Farmers Fire, York, Pa	120,661	1,562	457
Farmers and Merchants, Lincoln	154,185	732	4
Federal, Jersey City	513,610	5,808	1,566
Fire Association of Philadelphia	2,013,479	18,657	4,619
Firemens, Newark	1,520,427	10,121	4,162
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	2,143,379	19,462	11,383
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	391,190	4,467	3,604
German, Freeport	1,372,672	13,536	3,206
German Alliance, New York	1,794,132	13,149	12,113
German American, New York	4,784,294	46,159	21,944
Germania Fire, New York	1,187,884	12,334	4,400
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	410,376	5,800	226
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	415,915	4,051	1,970
Globe and Rutgers, New York	328,497	4,989	2,043
Granite State, Portsmouth	579,021	8,346	3,110
Hanover Fire, New York	1,976,928	14,161	10,376
Hartford Fire, Hartford	5,583,451	45,737	44,868
Home, New York	4,410,079	40,441	26,993
Home Fire & Marine, San Francisco	615,479	6,092	4,670
Indemnity, New York	100,325	1,266	1.535
Insurance Company North America	5,133,623	62,956	23,512
Mechanics, Philadelphia	320,287	3,778	2,864
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	380,166	4,511	4,159
Michigan Commercial, Lansing	815,924	3,750	4,447
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	361,530	4,652	834
Nassau Fire, New York	597,515	5,558	801
National Fire, Hartford	3,948,545	22,941	18,448
National Union, Pittsburgh	891,695	10,237	9,362
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	2,339,740	19,360	6,618
New York Fire, New York	526,128	2,749	478
Niagara Fire, New York	2,231,486	20,792	8,197
Northern, New York	383,947	5,218	4,964
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	562,443	2,189	123
North River Fire, New York	779,194	9,847	2,899
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	389,383	3,278	887
Orient, Hartford	722,327	5,722	2,876
Pelican, New York	105,047	1,420	------
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	1,323,436	17,910	8,216
Phenix, Brooklyn	2,557,258	20,897	10,608
Phœnix, Hartford	3,020,809	27,498	8,208
Queen, New York	1,487,437	10,742	5,308
Reliance, Philadelphia	760,648	6,979	4,485
Rochester German, Rochester	1,673,733	18,323	7,044
Security, New Haven	837,557	8,076	2,894
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	1,766,917	19,268	8,222
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	531,980	5,955	313
Star Fire, Louisville	78,891	1,835	1,502
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	551,989	5.826	2,271
Teutonia, New Orleans	738,178	6,884	4,870
Traders, Chicago	828,534	10,108	5,589
Union, Philadelphia	638,008	3,721	2,852
United Firemens, Philadelphia	505,943	6,748	3,761
United States Fire, New York	696,798	7,757	5,980
Westchester Fire, New York	999,309	13,439	4,257
Western, Pittsburgh	198,910	1,547	2,052
Williamsburgh City, New York	885,415	9,671	1,627
Total	$97,961,366	$925,108	$539,437
Foreign Companies.			
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$503,368	$5,645	$3,517
Atlas, London	929,040	7,731	4,651
British America, Toronto	503,195	7,036	1,710
Caledonian, Edinburgh	401,655	6,355	2,644
Commercial Union, London	1,881,248	12,628	2,880
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	1,517,001	17,435	5,605
Law Union and Crown, London	388,771	1,771	113
Liverpool and London and Globe	5,703,412	54,798	28,443
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	1,884,940	14,487	6,853
London Assurance Corporation	572,902	6,997	3,067
North British and Mercantile	3,053,719	20,965	3,713
Northern, London	2,225,426	15,472	1,976
Norwich Union, Norwich	1,580,618	11,666	6,167
Palatine, London	474,573	4,736	580
Phœnix, London	1,151,965	7,591	2,957
Prussian National, Stettin	915,651	8,468	5,041
Royal, Liverpool	4,643,864	39,155	18,150
Royal Exchange, London	837,015	11,077	13,039
Scottish Union and National	2,636,341	17,466	7,044
Skandia, Stockholm	1,054,130	7,211	2,774
State, Liverpool	152,482	823	12
Sun, London	996,001	23,759	11,264
Svea, Gothenburg	287,889	3,567	3,199
Union, London	1,106,304	4,919	3,155
Western, Toronto	2,273,783	11,209	8,965
Total	$37,675,293	$322,967	$147,519
Grand Totals, 1905	$135,636,659	$1,248,075	$686,956

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$141,392,558	$1,303,593	$1,076,464
1903	143,067,684	1,375,678	448,800
1902	138,211,940	1,251,848	401,022
1901	131,774,623	1,100,988	534,115
1900	144,296,656	1,135,653	831,548
1899	127,023,035	1,078,943	559,080
1898	119,160,778	1,027,826	481,263
1897	117,490,314	1,067,608	365,706
1896	112,052,001	956,920	556,959
1895	97,554,506	968,178	257,474
1894	90,434,532	940,054	493,909
1893	91,295,913	913,842	750,670
1892	93,346,675	892,543	502,187
1891	91,825,443	844,259	591,304
1880 to 1890 inclusive	695,587,859	7,242,125	3,530,867

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 51.5. The percentage in 1905 was 55.0.

Mill mutual fire insurance companies wrote $658,187,312 in Rhode Island in 1905; received, $5,277,305; paid, $276,283.

(Continued from page 143.)

should not be permitted. This will bring future industrial policies in which such waivers are common within the law.

12. Contributions by insurance corporations for political purposes should be strictly forbidden.

13. Legislative Expenses.—The committee recommends that the law be so amended that every person retained or employed for compensation as counsel or agent to promote or oppose the passage of bills or resolutions by either house or Executive approval of such measures shall before entering upon the service file in the office of the Secretary of State a writing stating the name or names of his employer, together with a brief description of the legislative matter with reference to which the service is to be rendered. The Secretary of State should be required to provide a docket to be known as the "Docket of Legislative Appearances," with appropriate blanks and indices in which the names of counsel and agent may be properly entered. Fees contingent upon legislative action should be prohibited. It should also be made the duty of every corporation and association doing business in the State within two months after the adjournment of the Legislature to file with the Secretary of State an itemized statement duly verified showing in detail all expenses paid or incurred in connection with legislation pending at the last session, including all disbursements or compensation paid or payable to counsel or agents.

14. Publicity.—Clear and specific provisions should be made for the disclosure of the transactions of companies, and these they should be required to set forth in their annual statements to the Superintendent of Insurance.

15. Forming New Companies.—Recommendations are made for the organization of new companies without capital stock.

16. The incorporation of companies on the assessment plan is forbidden.

17. Enlargement of powers of the Insurance Superintendent, among them the power to subpœna and swear witnesses not only connected with an insurance company, but all other persons who may be able to furnish him information relating to the affairs of a company.

18. The provisions of the Penal Code as to perjury should be amended so as to provide that in any prosecution the falsity of the testimony or statement set forth in the indictment should be presumptively established by proof that the defendant has made oath to the contrary.

19. That the violation of any provision of the insurance law shall be a misdemeanor.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

There are eight companion bills, three amend the penal code, one provides for the election of new directors, one amends the general legislative law, one amends the insurance law generally, and two amend the general corporation law.

In one of the bills all campaign contributions by life insurance companies are forbidden.

Another amends the Penal Code so as to make the receiver of a rebate equally guilty with the agent who allows it.

A third amends the general corporation law by repealing the provision which allows the companies to exchange real estate.

The fourth makes it a misdemeanor to make a false entry in the books of the companies or a false statement of any kind required by law.

The fifth provides that in any prosecutions for perjury the falsity of the testimony upon which the charge is based may be proved by showing that the accused person has made a statement to the contrary.

The sixth bill, which affects the insurance lobby, applies to all corporations and individuals, and embodies the provisions of the Armstrong report regarding filing notice of appearances, etc.

The seventh bill provides for the new elections in the insurance companies and controls the giving of proxies.

The last bill, amending the general insurance law, follows the general recommendations of the report. This bill also makes it mandatory that the State Superintendent shall examine all companies at least once in three years.

The report criticises the activities of the directors of the three largest insurance companies, and condemns the amounts of the salaries paid to Chauncey M. Depew and David B. Hill for services, claiming that their services were inadequate. Ex-Governor Odell and Thomas F. Ryan are also under fire, and the State Insurance Department is censured for allowing abuses of which it should have taken cognizance.

Annual Dinner of the Boston Life Underwriters' Association.

The twenty-third annual dinner of the Boston Life Underwriters' Association, which took place Wednesday evening at Young's Hotel, President Charles E. Townsend in the chair, attracted a fair attendance, although not so large a one as the interest of the occasion merited. The dinner cards were adorned with a low relief head of George Washington, and President Townsend in his opening observations proposed a toast, "To the childless father of eighty million people." He remarked further that during the twenty-three years of its existence the association had stood for much in the uplift of the business, and now stands for more than ever. Its continued vigor was evidenced by the fact that eight new applications for admission have been received. Although composed of men from different companies, with different plans and policies, the members had this in common—that all life insurance men have something good to sell. Mr. Townsend gave some statistics of life insurance business in Massachusetts, and further noted that of the 80,000,000 inhabitants of this country but 10,000,000 are insured. The outcome of the recent agitation tends to show that the affairs of the companies have been pretty well managed. They have stood the test well. During the past ten years not one reputable old line company has failed, while more than 1,000 banks have gone to smash during that period.

President Charles W. Scovel, of the National Association of Life Underwriters, was introduced amid great applause. He was glad to be in the Hub of the Universe, which was also the hub of the life association movement. He brought greetings from the Pittsburgh Association, the second oldest of all, and which celebrates its twentieth anniversary next week; also greetings from nearly fifty associations dotting the land from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the St. Lawrence to the Gulf. The association movement had made a fraternity of the agents; without it they would have been a pack of wolves. The associations were not

merely for the purpose of bandying sweet nothings, but were exercising a practical influence for good. The National Association had been recognized by the President of the United States, by being invited by him to participate in the movement for securing a uniformity of insurance law in the different States. The speaker knew of one State where hasty legislation had been recently avoided, because the life association had instructed the insurance commissioner as to its outcome, and the argument had made a profound impression. Referring to the future of life insurance, Mr. Scovel said that the people were all right, that a reaction from the fretting and fault finding was sure to come, being founded on a natural law. The agent who is a member of a life association no longer stands as merely the hired man of any company, but he stands for the business of life insurance as a whole, and no one else does that. Close are his relations and his responsibilities to the policyholder. It was not he who made the companies; but it is he who makes policyholders, and to him people go for advice and instruction. Therefore his responsibility to the insured is greater than his responsibility to his company. The association stands for the whole cause of life insurance, not for any separate exponent thereof.

The formal part of Mr. Scovel's address was entitled "The Primal Duty." He contended that self preservation was not the first law of nature, but that race preservation is. The evolution of centuries had brought this about, that the average man feels that he is entitled to make more than a living; he is entitled to make a life. Of the three elements on which the welfare of the community is based, namely, church, state and life insurance, the latter, although by far the youngest of the three, had already reached an astounding extension. He referred to voices that had been recently raised against undue growth and the abuses resulting therefrom in life insurance. He contended that the wrong consisted not in writing too much insurance, but in writing too much spurious insurance. Mr. Scovel also made some clever raps at the scheme of "standardizing" life insurance policies. He showed how young men are apt to put off the duty of matrimony, until suddenly they see someone among the 5,700 varieties of young ladies that touches a responsive chord. In the same way life insurance is put off until some clever agent brings up just the talking point in a policy that will appeal to the young man. Variety in kinds of policies was, therefore, a good thing. The twenty payment, the endowment and the deferred dividend form and that ilk appealed primarily to man's instinct of life, putting the eventuality of death in a secondary place, and by that means uncounted thousands have been induced to provide for their own, who otherwise, probably, would not have done so. A clever lawyer of Boston had objected to the expense of the agents in life insurance. It might be argued with equal force that law would be much cheaper without lawyers; or religion, as there were twice as many ministers as were really necessary going into the highways and byways and loading up the people with so much religion that lapses must inevitably result. The public needs the agents to personify the company so many miles away, and the death benefit so many years away.

Mr. Edward M. Noyes, a preacher of Newton Centre, gave an interesting discourse on the new theory of races, as differentiated by cephalic measurements. He commented on the different classes of immigration that of late had been pouring to this country, as compared with those that came a generation ago. He believed that all of them had good qualities which were needed in our national development, and would finally form an amalgam, producing the ideal American race, and insuring the life of the American nation.

Mr. Louis A. Frothingham, former Speaker of the Massachusetts House, said that the developments of the past year had singed the characters of a few people connected with life insurance, but had shown the fundamental soundness of the institution. The insurance companies can bear up under what little defeat they have suffered, because they know that their cause is right and that life insurance is a necessary part of life. High standards were required by modern conditions, and that the companies had lived up to them was evidenced by the fact that they proved to be as good after investigation as before.

The proceedings of the evening closed with a "Good Night," spoken by ex-President Baldwin.

Responsibility of the Trustees of the Equitable, Mutual and New York Life—McCall's and Hamilton's Sacrifice of Self.

(New York Correspondence of "Holland" in the Washington Post.)

It was characteristic of Mr. McCall that he should have spoken not merely to his son, but to his steadfast friends of the New York Life, who visited him at Lakewood, as he did speak of Andrew Hamilton. There is not a trustee of that institution who did not know, possibly officially or informally, but as a matter of common repute, that Hamilton was maintained at Albany for the purpose of fending off strike legislation. No doubt Mr. McCall did not ask nor did any of the trustees request him to ask for details of the disbursements that Hamilton made. His vocation at Albany was similar to that of the late A. D. Barber, who was a master hand at managing lobbyists and in fending off strike legislation aimed at the railroads.

McCall and Hamilton both possess to a great degree some of the distinguishing characteristics of their race. McCall has the generosity, often untempered by the best of judgment, which distinguishes so many successful men of the Irish race, and that also was true of Hamilton. Moreover, each of them had the predominant passion that has been tested so often upon Irishmen who have been associated with important undertakings—political and national, as well as financial—namely, that of looking upon the informer as the most despicable of men. Hamilton might, so it is said by those who know, return to the United States and make detailed disclosure of all his disbursements without in any way imperiling his liberty through danger of prosecution. If he did disburse, he did not know, of course, of the funds that he spent; but he has that peculiar notion of honor which would lead him to prefer prison rather than to betray confidences which were given and accepted as confidences. Therefore, rather than put himself in peril he will remain at Paris, and anyone who benefited by the disbursements that came from him through intermediaries will breathe easier for that knowledge. Some who were—and, if suspicion be correct, a few who are—members of the Legislature, and who prospered through that membership, will be in no peril of disclosures made by Hamilton.

THE CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.

The coldly critical and reproachful wording of the Fowler report with respect to campaign contributions greatly distressed Mr. McCall. If the trustees' committee who drew up that report did not know, informally at least, that this insurance corporation had contributed to campaign funds, or rather to the cause of the gold standard, there were many other trustees who did know of it. The late William R. Grace, who was a trustee of this company for many years, informed the writer of this letter in 1896, and again in 1900, that the insurance corporation had contributed not so much to defeat Bryan as to aid in securing the single gold standard. Moreover, it was a matter of common report. Every one who knew anything of the campaigns of 1896 and 1900, at least as they were carried on in this city, was aware that some of the insurance corporations, and almost every one of the national banks, had made contributions, not in a partisan sense, but simply that there might be the better assurance of the establishment of the gold standard. Possibly the committee of which President Fowler was the chairman did not know of these contributions, either officially or informally—did not even suspect that they had been made; but if that were their condition of mind, they were exceptional. No doubt it was the consciousness that his trustees did have at least unofficial knowledge of these contributions, and that, nevertheless, this committee of trustees could now write so reproachful a report, intimating that Mr. McCall should be sued for the recovery of the funds, gave to Mr. McCall the final and the mortal stab.

WHAT TRUSTEES HAVE DONE.

The conduct of some of the trustees of some of the insurance corporations since these disclosures has been such as to

shake belief in the courage and sincerity of men. In fact, it is the general comment here now that the rational method was that adopted by Thomas F. Ryan and well carried on by Mr. Morton as president of the Equitable. What the trustees of that institution have discovered of mismanagement, in part due at least to their own laches under the Hyde and Alexander régime, is not to be exploited publicly. The corrections, if any are needed, are to be faithfully and thoroughly made. President Morton is much occupied in working out the scheme of thorough economy. He seeks to restore confidence in the new administration, not through any latter day criticisms of the preceding administration.

Some of the trustees of the Mutual Life were the sources from which Mr. Hughes obtained much of the information which he was able to bring out through the examination of witnesses. The course of these trustees was like that of one who turns State evidence, seeking immunity of the kind which is suggested by silence. There was a conspicuous example about which there is much comment in all business circles in this city. Certain trustees of one of the insurance societies were widely identified with various trust institutions, being thus appointed by reason of their association with the insurance corporation. They were the agents by which securities were bought and sold or loaded upon the trust companies. In one case certain of the directors of a trust institution resigned because these insurance associates had been loading upon that institution certain much petted securities.

And yet, when the insurance investigating committee began to reveal the sincerity of investigation, these as well as other trustees ran to cover. Some of them put themselves into communication with Mr. Hughes and disgorged a large amount of information, clearly with the view of securing for themselves that silence which is necessary if they are to maintain their reputations as reformers and as conspicuous members of reform associations. Mr. Hughes was glad of the information brought to him, but if he were to tell the truth he would doubtless say that he was more greatly shocked by the revelation of selfishness and cowardice which some trustees made to him than he was by the revelations of mismanagement of some of the insurance officers.

Mr. McCall's friends believe that he has expiated sufficiently through his resignation of the presidency, and his return to the insurance corporation of funds which he pledged to return, and the sacrifice of his life insurance policies, whatever errors of judgment he may have committed; but they do say that the mortal wound was given to him when the report of the Fowler committee was read to him and when he uttered the one despairing cry: "Have I, then, done nothing for my insurance company?"

CHARLES F. MITCHELL,

INSURANCE,

56-58 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

Manager Eastern Department, Metropolitan Department

STAR FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

LOUISVILLE, KY.

Correspondence with Agents and Brokers solicited.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencies

WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

Thirty-ninth Annual Statement of the

UNION CENTRAL LIFE INS. CO.

OF CINCINNATI, OHIO

For the Year Ending December 31, 1905.

ASSETS.

Cash on hand and in banks		$140,302.52
First Mortgage Loans on Real Estate		40,317,152.07
Home Office Property and Other Real Estate		537,260.62
Cash Loans on Company's Policies		4,511,759.37
United States Bonds, deposited with Treasurer of Virginia.		10,300.00
Premium Notes and Loans on Policies in force		1,725,460.36
Agents' Balances and Cash Obligations		238,312.59
Net Deferred and Unreported Premiums		617,953.36
Interest and Rents due and unpaid		82,340.73
Interest accrued, not yet due		1,838,825.41
Gross Assets December 31, 1905		$50,019,667.03

LIABILITIES.

Reserve Fund required by law	$40,436,928.00	
Policy Claims in process of adjustment	126,676.00	
Unpaid Dividends and Premiums Paid in advance	120,622.92	
Instalment Policy Death Claims not due	324,984.00	
Commissions not due and all other obligations	279,940.09	
Surplus credited on special forms of Policies $5,873,375.00		
General Surplus 2,857,141.02		
Gross Surplus	$8,730,516.02	
		$50,019,667.03

RECEIPTS.

Premiums	$8,569,608.41	
Interest and Rents	2,699,595.38	
		$11,269,203.79

DISBURSEMENTS.

Death Claims	$1,604,207.61	
Matured Endowments and Annuities	497,582.63	
Surrendered and Canceled Policies	603,489.62	
Dividends to Policyholders	691,876.99	
Total Payments to Policyholders		$3,397,156.85
Taxes, Commissions and all other expenses		1,970,355.54
Profit and Loss Account, Interest on Capital and Reinsurance		244,447.81
Total Disbursements		$5,611,960.20

INSURANCE ACCOUNT.

Total number of Policies in force	127,703
Total amount insured	$233,933,136.00
Increase in the number of Policies	8,528
Increase in the amount insured	$17,277,508.00
Total amount of Death Losses, Matured Endowments, Dividends and Claims of all kinds paid to Policyholders since organization, and amount now held for their benefit	79,224,337.64
Policies Issued and Revived in 1905—20,225—Insuring	41,571,486.00

GAINS IN 1905.

Gain in Assets	$6,127,928.63
Gain in Income	1,096,968.15
Gain in Premium Receipts	759,428.57
Gain in Interest Receipts	337,539.58
Gain in Surplus	1,513,827.86
Gain in Number of Policies	8,528
Gain in Amount of Insurance	$17,277,508.00

OFFICERS.

JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

R. S. RUST, Vice-President. E. P. MARSHALL, Sec. and Act'y.
J. R. CLARK, Treasurer. ALLAN WATERS, Supt. of Agts.
CLARK W. DAVIS, M. D., Medical Director.
JOHN L. DAVIS, M. D., Medical Director.
E. E. HARDCASTLE, Associate Actuary.
J. R. L. CARRINGTON, Assistant Actuary.
MAXWELL & RAMSEY, Counsel.

WHAT is the use of saying
"The best company,"
or "The strongest company,"
or "The largest company"?
They all say these things.

WE SIMPLY SAY . . .

THE PENN MUTUAL LIFE Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Organized 1847.

THAT TELLS THE WHOLE STORY.

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

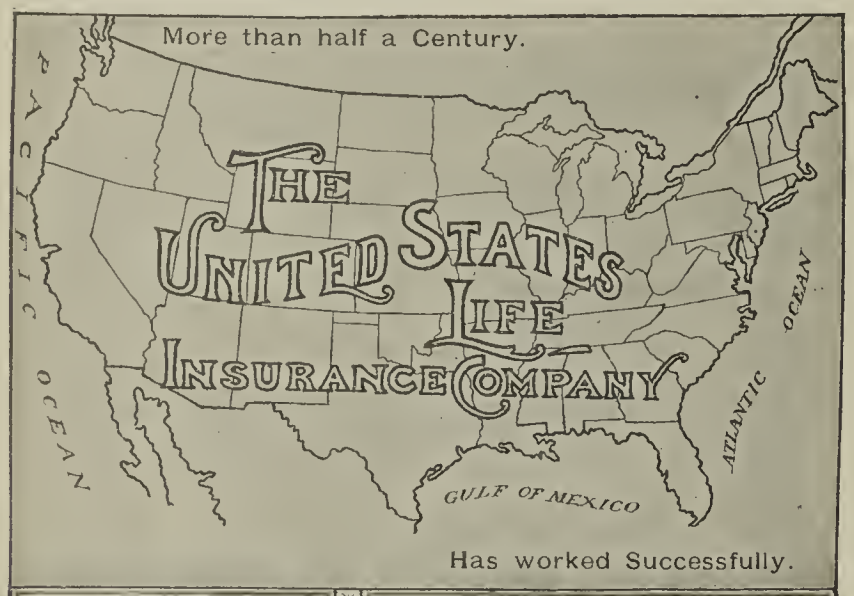
Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references

WESTERN MANAGER

Care of WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William St., New York City

Applications will be considered strictly confidential.



JOHN P. MUNN, M.D.
President

FINANCE COMMITTTEE

JAMES R. PLUM
Leather

CLARENCE H. KELSEY
Pres. Title Guar. and Trust Co.

WILLIAM H. PORTER
Pres. Chemical Nat'l Bank

Good men, whether experienced in life insurance or not, may make

DIRECT CONTRACTS

with this Company, for a limited territory if desired, and secure for themselves, in addition to first year's commission, a renewal interest insuring an income for the future. Address the Company at its HOME OFFICE, No. 277 Broadway, New York City.

You Must Progress if You Would Succeed.

P. M. STARNES, President

A PROGRESSIVE COMPANY

ESTABLISHED 1868

Full Paid Capital
One Million Dollars

In five years has gained in

Annual Premium Income,	$1,331,799
Assets	2,911,595
Insurance in force	27,949,110

Progressive Management
Modern Policies

Home Office

NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41
(Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.

Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

Massachusetts Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED 1851

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

ASSETS January 1, 1905,	$37,071,297.57
LIABILITIES,	33,770,674.54
SURPLUS,	3,300,623.03

Definite Paid-up and Cash Surrender Values written in every Policy.

JOHN A. HALL, Pres. HENRY M. PHILLIPS, Vice-Pres.
WM. W. MCCLENCH, Sec'd Vice-Pres. WM. H. SARGEANT, Sec.

New York Office: 610 Empire Building, 71 Broadway.

Men of Character are attracted to the Agency Force of the Northwestern

Because the Northwestern accepts business only from regular agents of the Company:

Because Northwestern policies command 100 cents on the dollar. Rebating has been prohibited since 1893.

Northwestern commissions are for Northwestern agents.

Best Results to Policy-Holders.

Most Attractive Policies.

Issues Partnership and Corporation Insurance.

For further information or an Agency, address:

H. F. NORRIS,
Superintendent of Agencies.

. . . . . The . . . . . .

Northwestern

Mutual Life Insurance Co. of Milwaukee. . . . . .

H. L. PALMER, President. J. W. SKINNER, Secretary.
Organized 1857.

GROWTH OF COMPANY.

Year.	Insurance in Force.
1865	$ 11,217,155
1885	98,793,982
1905	708,552,287

Business of 1904 largest in history of Company.

Purely Mutual, and transacts business only in the United States.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1904	$2,617,755.75
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,406,159.17
Joint Stock Capital	500,000.00

INCORPORATED 1865.

GERMAN INSURANCE CO.

OF FREEPORT, ILL.

The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$5,546,127.97
Cash Capital,	200,000.00
Liabilities, including reinsurance,	3,617,361.34
NET SURPLUS,	1,728,766.63

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

Northern Assurance Company,

OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN DEPARTMENTS,

38 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

GEORGE W. BABB, JR., Manager. T. A. RALSTON, Sub-Manager.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1905

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance. The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy.

Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

Western Assurance Company

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, CANADA.
INCORPORATED 1851.
Hon. GEO. A. COX, President.
J. J. KENNY, V. P. and Managing Director.
UNITED STATES STATEMENT, JANUARY, 1906.

Assets	$2,397,608.00
Surplus in United States	782,945.00

For a DEFINITE PROMISE to PAY, well defined, no experiment and taking no chances that technical legal definitions of what constitutes an accident will be used to defeat claims, BUY YOUR INSURANCE in and SELL the policies of

"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.

For particulars address **The Central Accident Ins. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

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Agencies in all the Principal Places in the United States.

Fire Insurance Company OF NEW YORK.

Provident Savings Life Assurance Society

OF NEW YORK.

TIMOTHY L. WOODRUFF, PRESIDENT.

THE BEST COMPANY FOR POLICY HOLDERS AND AGENTS.

SUCCESSFUL AGENTS, AND GENTLEMEN SEEKING REMUNERATIVE BUSINESS CONNECTIONS; MAY APPLY TO THE HEAD OFFICE, OR ANY OF THE SOCIETY'S GENERAL AGENTS.

[FIRE]
German American
Insurance Company
New York

CAPITAL
$1,500,000
NET SURPLUS
5,841,907
ASSETS
12,980,705

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY

OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

NEW YORK OFFICE:

68 WILLIAM STREET.

North British & Mercantile
INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

Established 1809.

OFFICE:
76 WILLIAM STREET,
New York City.

QUEEN
Ins. Co. of America.
NEW YORK.

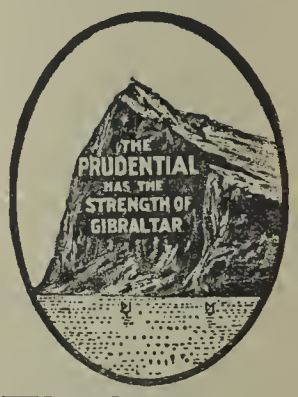
YOUNG MEN MAKE MONEY

There are opportunities to represent a big, sound, up-to-date Life Insurance Company in a profitable manner.

Prudential representatives make money. They have most varied forms of policies and advantageous contracts, with liberal commissions.

The attention of young men, particularly young men starting in business, is especially sought.

Write for full information regarding these unusual opportunities.



THE PRUDENTIAL
INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA
Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey.
JOHN F. DRYDEN, President — Home Office, Newark, N. J.

The Mutual Benefit
LIFE INSURANCE CO.
NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

ASSETS (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1905,	$93,237,790.27
LIABILITIES,	85,918,227.30
SURPLUS,	7,319,562.97

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

SUN
Insurance Office of London
FOUNDED 1710.

United States Branch: 54 Pine St., New York.

Western Department: 171 La Salle St., Chicago.
Pacific Department: 215 Sansome St., San Francisco.

THE Fidelity and Casualty Company,

97-103 CEDAR STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

Assets, $7,393,680.42.

Capital and Surplus, $2,803,482.87.

Losses Paid to June 30, 1905, $20,765,989.03.

This Company grants Insurance as follows:
Bonds of Suretyship for persons in positions of trust,
Fidelity Bonds, Burglary, Plate Glass,
Steam Boiler, Flywheel, Employers',
Public, Teams, Workmen's Collective,
Elevator and General Liability;
Personal Accident, Health and
Bonded Attorneys' List.

OFFICERS:

GEORGE F. SEWARD, President,
ROBERT J. HILLAS, Vice-President-Secretary.
HENRY CROSSLEY, Assistant Secretary.
FRANK E. LAW, Second Assistant Secretary.
GEORGE W. ALLEN, Third Assistant Secretary.

THE METROPOLITAN PLATE GLASS AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK.

Home Office: 47 Cedar St.

Chartered 1874. The Oldest New York Company in Its Line.
Assets, January 1, 1904, $591,813.08.
Surplus to Policyholders, 389,895.29.

Plate Glass and Personal Accident Policies

OF THE MOST APPROVED FORMS

EUGENE H. WINSLOW, President, DANIEL D. WHITNEY, Vice-Pres't.
S. WM. BURTON, Secretary. ALONZO G. BROOKS, Ass't Sec'y.

RELIABLE AND ENERGETIC AGENTS WANTED.

Head Office for the United States:

57 and 59

William Street,

NEW YORK.

A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Manager.

THE AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

OFFICE COMPANY'S BUILDING. 308 and 310 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

CASH CAPITAL..... $500,000.00
Reserve for Reinsurance and all other claims..... 2,116,118.40
Surplus over all Liabilities..... 222,677.40

TOTAL ASSETS, JANUARY 1, 1905, $2,838,795.80.

JOHN H. PACKARD, JR., President.
WAITE BLIVEN, Secretary.
WM. F. WILLIAMS, Treas. and Asst. Sec'y.
EDWARD MANEUVRE, Asst. Sec'y.
LOUIS S. AMONSON, Secretary of the Agency Department.

DIRECTORS:

John H. Packard, Jr. John S. Gerhard.
Joseph E. Gillingham. Edward Lowber Welsh.
Charles S. Whelen. Archibald R. Montgomery.
Edward F. Beale. Thomas K. Ober, Jr.
Francis E. Bond.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO., INCORPORATED 1833.

FIRE AND MARINE. Head Office: TORONTO, CANADA.

UNITED STATES BRANCH.

JANUARY 1, 1906

Assets $1,542,949.10
Liabilities 1,046,546.17

Net Surplus..... $496,402.93

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.

C. H. Buuker, President. Franklin H. Head, Vice-President.
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Continental Casualty Company

POLICIES ARE PROTECTED by more than ONE MILLION DOLLARS ASSETS.

Capital Stock, $300,000.00
Accident and Health Insurance
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OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS paid in claims to 175,000 of our POLICYHOLDERS.

GOOD CONTRACTS IN GOOD TERRITORY TO GOOD MEN
Producers, address H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.
134 Monroe Street, Chicago.

"SAFE AS A NATIONAL BANK NOTE."

The Inter-State Life ASSURANCE COMPANY,

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

CHARLES A. SUDLOW, President. F. P. DAVENPORT, Secretary

EASTERN DEPARTMENT: 621 Walnut Street, PHILADELPHIA.
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London Assurance Corporation,

CHARTERED A. D. 1720.

SURPLUS IN U. S. JAN. 1, 1905, $831,256.62

CHAS. LYMAN CASE, Manager.
61 Pine Street, NEW YORK.

CHARTERED 1866.

Hartford Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

Up to date in business methods—in contracts—in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.

$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.

Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.

INVESTIGATE.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846–1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President.
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Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410.42	$11,290,773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President.
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Offices in New York: Fire. 51 William St.; Marine. 63 Wall St.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.

LIMITED,

OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

Provident Life and Trust Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. **THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY** invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$43,891,738.40
Liabilities,	36,675,050.24
Gross Surplus,	7,216,688.16

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.
Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

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THERE are many indications that a fresh contest is brewing for the control of the Mutual Life insurance company, the attacking party being certain high financial interests, led apparently by Mr. Stuyvesant Fish. Their purpose is thinly veiled in the frequent allusions in several of the daily papers to the alleged efforts of President Peabody and the alleged financial influences behind him to stifle inquiry into other delinquencies claimed to have been perpetrated by the lately overthrown management, in which Mr. Peabody can have no possible concern. Speaking for the policyholders and agents of the company, it needs hardly to be said that there is cause for great regret that just as the new administration has settled down to work in peace for that recuperation of its affairs that the company so much needs, there is prospect of renewed disturbance, apprehension and discouragement. President Peabody has opposed another general overhauling of the affairs of the company in the dead past—after the rather drastic scrutiny that that past has undergone at the hands of the Armstrong Committee—on the very proper ground that no useful purpose will be served, none at least compared with the injury that will be inflicted upon its interests by continued agitation. What warrant have the policyholders and agents to believe that a Fish control will improve conditions? The British policyholders, owing to their distance from the field, are confused by cable reports of dissensions, and in their alarm are appealing blindly to Mr. Fish to lead them. They and their American fellows will hardly be reassured by the report that Lawson is offering to join Mr. Fish in this raid for the possession of the company. If Mr. Fish's intentions are misunderstood, and he, too, appreciates the advantage of peace, he should make haste to say so.

OPINION among life underwriters upon the effects of the legislation proposed by the Armstrong Committee has had time to mature since the presentation of the report late last week, and it is almost unanimously unfavorable. The lay community may be expected to support the committee's measures, because its views are those of the newspapers, which with like unanimity are favorable. With that powerful influence behind the committee, whose present temper appears to be to jam its bills through, with the allowance of but one hearing upon them, the outlook is good for the success of the Revolution. And a Revolution in life insurance, so far as the State of New York is concerned, the enactment of the committee's legislation will certainly be, for it will be fraught with the most momentous consequences to the companies, their policyholders and their agents. Nothing less than the prosperity of the companies—possibly their existence—is involved in the issue. For the restriction of investments in the manner proposed may materially lower interest earnings; the limitation of surplus may, in case of sudden depreciation of assets in a panic, imperil solvency; the limitation of business and commissions will disperse thousands of agents whose labor produces the incentive to insurance; the repeal of the section requiring actions for accounting to be instituted by the Attorney General will open the door to barretry, and the bringing of thousands of vexatious suits at the instigation of shyster lawyers, with consequent great expense to the policyholders; the standardizing of policies will produce confusion in business unless all other States adopt the same system, which is improbable; the publication of lists of policyholders, if practicable, will promote "twisting"; the easy displacement of trustees at annual meetings will affect stability of management and discourage official devotion and efficiency; the infliction of imprisonment for infractions of the law that are beyond the power of officers to prevent will, as our greatest actuary, Mr. McClintock, points out, create a condition against which officers of responsiblity cannot afford to take chances. Should all or most of these objectionable features of the proposed legislation be adopted, the business of life insurance in New York will not be destroyed, but it will be bereft of vigor, inducement and initiative. Competitive companies of other States will not be slow to take advantage of a situation which their own States will not imitate, and by withdrawing from New York expand at its expense. The Legislature is thus confronted with the alternative of modifying the plans of the Armstrong Committee or dealing a deadening blow at home institutions. Our readers will find expressions of opinion by actuaries and other company officers on another page.

THE superstition that the insurance of minors by industrial life companies is an incentive to their murder by their parents will probably never be wholly dissipated, and underdone humanitarians will continue to harass legislatures with their tears and pleadings for preventive laws. This and the relative expensiveness of industrial life insurance are doubtless the motives underlying the introduction of Senator Frawley's resolution in the New York Legislature for the appointment of a joint committee of three Senators and five Assemblymen to investigate the business. In its report the Armstrong Committee expressed its regret that the limitation of its time precluded an overhauling of the industrial system as practiced by the companies doing business in New York, and Senator Armstrong therefore quite naturally approves of the Frawley resolution, although he is good enough to say that he "rather scouted the idea of wholesale child murder in connection with the insurance of infants, although the temptation was there." If the proposed investigation is confined to inquiries into the possibilities of child murder and the equitableness of expenses it is well worth having. Proceeding under the limelight still being shed on

life insurance affairs, the findings of the investigators would receive that public attention which the friends of industrial insurance strongly desire. They have nothing to fear from the ascertainment of the facts, and if the facts can be made known in the same resonant manner that they were in England when Parliament made its famous inquiry, there is a certainty that the questions at issue will be set at rest with all reasonable people. The heavy working expenses are due to the cost of house to house collection of premiums, and in no other way than by this method can the advantages and blessings of life insurance be secured to the poorer classes. Results are the same in England, where the industrial system was born. As for the truth about the effects of the industrial insurance of children, we know of no clearer statement than that made by Insurance Commissioner Host in his life insurance report of 1904. He said:

Attacks have been made against that part of the system which insures the lives of children. Most of these attacks were made through ignorance; a few in good faith. In consequence of such attacks efforts have been made from time to time to prohibit the insurance of children by legislative enactment in several of the States, but after fair and impartial hearings these efforts have been abortive. It was shown conclusively that the maximum amount of insurance granted on a single life by all the companies combined, under the restrictions which prevail in their practice, was so small that there could be no possible incentive on the part of ill designed parents toward wrongdoing. The idea in itself is repugnant in that it assumes that the poorer classes of the community do not have that natural affection for their offspring which is found even in the lower orders of creation. No one will dispute the fact that there is no insurable interest in the life of an infant, and yet no one will deny that it is perfectly proper and in the interest of public morals for the parent to make provision through insurance for the decent burial of a child and the necessary expense attending its last sickness.

Facts and Opinions.

Respecting the resignation of Mr. Stuyvesant Fish from the Truesdale committee of the **Mutual Life insurance company,** the following statement was issued on Monday by the remaining members of the committee:

Mr. Fish was never asked by us or anyone in our behalf to sign a "whitewashing report." No such report has ever been drawn, and none has been considered, suggested or even thought of so far as we have any knowledge, and no such report can or will be made. The reports that have been submitted to the board are all that have ever been prepared by or on behalf of the committee, and none, whether of a "whitewashing" nature or otherwise, is now or ever has been in the hands of the committee waiting until its membership is filled to sign and submit it. The statement made in Sunday's *Tribune* regarding this feature of the committee's work is absolutely without foundation in fact. Any statement regarding the alleged connection between the affairs of the Mutual Life and the Illinois Central Railroad Company is equally untrue so far as we have any personal knowledge or reason to believe.

WILLIAM H. TRUESDALE.
JOHN W. AUCHINCLOSS.

Mr. Fish having also resigned from the board of trustees is now an outsider. In reply to a cable inquiry from the British Policyholders' Protection Association of the Mutual Life, whether he is really out and urging him to "continue to support with all his power and influence a general movement to liberate the company from trusts and Wall Street," Mr. Fish on Thursday sent the following telegram:

Cable received. Having become satisfied through investigation from inside impracticable, I resigned from committee and later from board. The committee's four counsel also resigned. Am invited to join policyholders' movement for investigation and reform. What would you suggest? Would you also join International Policyholders' Committee, and provide suitable French and German representatives for whom you can vouch? FISH.

At a meeting of the trustees of the company on Thursday the resignations of Effingham B. Morris and Stuyvesant Fish as members of the board were presented and accepted. The opinion of Joseph H. Choate advising the bringing of suits against Richard A. McCurdy and Robert H. McCurdy and the firm of Charles H. Raymond & Co., including L. A. Thébaud, was read and a statement made by the president that suits were instituted on receipt of Mr. Choate's first expression of his views, before the presentation of the formal opinion. The report of the Armstrong Committee was considered, and the following resolutions offered by Commodore Gerry were adopted:

Resolved, That so much of the report of the committee as recommends remedial legislation be referred to the president and counsel, with authority to appear before the Legislature at any hearing on the bills introduced by the committee, and to present such facts and considerations as in their judgment may most effectively protect the interests of the company and its policyholders.

Resolved, That as to the other matters contained in the report the same be referred to the president, to examine and report to this board what action, if any, should be taken thereon, and that until the reception of his report further action on the report of the committee be postponed.

The District Attorney of New York has not yet procured an indictment against the officials of the **Mutual Reserve Life,** but he is "going to get it" from the March grand jury. At the sitting of the February grand jury last week Messrs. Burnham and Eldridge were examined and declined to reply to certain questions propounded by the jury. At Greensboro, N. C., on Saturday last Judge Ferguson refused to make permanent the temporary receivership granted a few days ago in the case of the Mutual Reserve upon the application of J. W. Blackwell, of Durham. The company withdrew from Missouri this week, and makes the following statement of its reasons therefor:

In the latter part of 1905 the Hon. W. D. Vandiver, Superintendent of Insurance, notified the Mutual Reserve Life insurance company of his purpose to undertake an examination, the same to begin about the middle of February, 1906. The company made no objection, although in its opinion the examination and the expense incident thereto were unnecessary. In February he notified the company that he was prepared to begin the examination and that five persons would be employed thereon, at a daily charge to the company of $81, together with the living expenses in New York of one of the examiners, who was to come from St. Louis. Among the five was included "stenographer or clerk, per day, $6." The State statute provides that "the fees for an examination of the assets or the liabilities of a company shall not exceed $10 per day for any one examiner, together with all necessary expenses incurred and actually paid and reported under oath of the examiner." The company objected to these fees as illegal, and in many cases unnecessary. It claims that, whatever compensation the State of Missouri might pay for the examination, the limit that can be charged the company is fixed by the statute, and even this does not warrant such unreasonable charges as a clerk or stenographer at $6 a day. It has the advice of the best insurance counsel in Missouri that the Insurance Superintendent cannot lawfully demand that you submit to an examination at any such exorbitant cost as the superintendent has indicated.

The company's estimate of the minimum cost of the examination was $8,000, and therefore it declined to submit. Commenting on the above Superintendent Vandiver says that he was just about to oust the company from the State when he received its notice of withdrawal.

The **Germania Life insurance company of New York** shows in its January 1 exhibit assets of $35,711,677.28, income in 1905 of $6,275,661.80 and disbursements of $4,656,766.17, of which $3,288,225.99 was paid to policyholders. The reasons why the Germania Life is one of the most popular companies lie in its obvious financial strength, its well defined policy of moderate but steady growth without extravagance or waste, and its absolute freedom, as again shown in the recent New York legislative investigation, from any and all speculative and syndicate transactions, political contributions and other objectionable practices; its conservatism, shown in its investments, more than half of which consist of first mortgages on improved city property, yielding a good rate of interest and but little liability to fluctuation or loss; its careful selection of its risks, its dividend record and the attractiveness of its policies, which are simple and concise contracts, free from all technicalities and liberal in their pro-

visions. The company has applied the three and a half per cent. basis to all its outstanding policies (except as to some policies which are valued on a 3 per cent. basis), the difference between the result of the valuation so made and of the valuation according to the legal standard, amounting to $839,312, having been set apart as an additional reserve fund. Calculated according to the present legal standard, the liabilities amount to $29,360,065.36, leaving guarantee and dividend funds of $4,744,717.03.

Losses on grain elevators, especially railway elevators, have been very heavy in the West the past year, and most of the companies have a very heavy loss on the line. On small country elevators their experience has been more favorable. Following total losses on terminal elevators at Kansas City, which had three, Council Bluffs, Chicago, Joliet and East St. Louis, several of these losses amounting to a half million dollars, came the heavy loss of early last week on the Peavey elevator at Duluth, amounting to over a million dollars. These losses persuade the companies that not only are physical conditions changing, but there is an increase of moral hazard. The big elevators of today are not used for the same purposes as the old style elevators, as they have cleaning and mixing machinery and their owners make their profits more on speculation than on storage. The rapid increase in tile and tank elevators is cutting into the business of the old style houses and leading to a moral hazard, while many of the old houses have been compelled to install so much new machinery to keep up with new processes that the machinery is overloaded and fires are increasing.

In an article on **payment for financial services** in this week's *Independent* Mr. Thomas F. Ryan says:

Fortunes which sometimes look excessive may be the result of rendering great services to the community. If a man by intense mental application or natural aptitude can introduce economies into railroad management, he is worthy of a large salary. The salary would not in any case absorb the entire saving made to the stockholders of the railroad and to the public by the reforms introduced. In some cases this claim of the inventor is compensated by the royalties paid under the patent law, but there are many services rendered in the matter of organization which are not patentable, but afford as striking benefits as patents. Among these, for instance, may be suggested the reduction of the cost of the manufacture of steel by Mr. Carnegie and those associated with him in the upbuilding of the industries now combined in the steel corporation. From such services have come many of our great fortunes. If their possessors receive what amounts to a commission on the services they render, it is only a small part of the sum of benefits they have conferred on the community. Take away the opportunity for winning either money or distinction by rendering such services, and few men, as human nature is constituted, would render them. It is right that competition between men should be brought within constantly narrower and narrower rules of justice. This is possible without taking away the initiative which makes men do things, and seems to me the direction in which, in spite of obstacles, humanity is tending.

The examining committee of policyholders of the **John Hancock Mutual Life,** consisting of Daniel G. Wing, president of the First National Bank of Boston; Charles W. S. Cobb, president of the Glencoe Lime and Cement Company, of St. Louis, and Elwyn G. Preston, treasurer of the R. H. White Company, of Boston, and former secretary of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, have made a report on the condition of the company, which is found to be eminently satisfactory. In the course of the report the committee says:

In reporting upon general features of management, the committee realizes fully the difficulty of making any comparison of the elements which enter into the business of life insurance, with accepted standards of mercantile business. It can be said, however, that there is everywhere evidence of care, conservatism and fidelity to the interests of the company on the part of its officers and employees. In none of its operations have we seen evidence of improper alliances or affiliation with outside financial interests, or evidence of the use of money for any unlawful purpose. We have examined the expenditures for administration and salaries in the home office, and in the judgment of your committee they are reasonable and warranted. We have been given every facility by the officers of the company for the prosecution of our work, and all information desired by the committee has been promptly and cheerfully furnished.

The report of the fire insurance department of the **Law Union and Crown** of London for the year ending December 31, 1905, showed fire premiums, after deduction of reinsurances, of £213,578, and losses by fire of £81,241, or 38.03 per cent. of the net premium income. The expenses of every description, including commission and bonus to staff, amounted to £73,514, being at the rate of 34.42 per cent. of the net premium income, leaving a profit balance on the fire business for the year of £58,822, which has been carried to the profit and loss account. The fire reserves have been increased by £31,100, to £250,000. The sum of £136,502 was brought forward in the profit and loss account from 1904. From fire profits there has been added thereto £58,822, from interest on capital and shareholders' reserves £28,007, making, with £35 share transfer fees, a total of £223,367. Thereout has been paid for dividends to shareholders £48,750, for interest o ndebenture capital £11,030, to initiate a staff pension scheme £5,000, and to strengthen the fire reserves £31,100, leaving a balance to be carried forward of £127,486.

The fire insurance companies which hold the bulk of the **preferred business in Chicago,** and which naturally are opposed to any reduction in rates, "blame" the agitation upon the companies which have not got the business, and which will, therefore, be glad to see an upheaval in hope that a share would come to them. Several of these companies announce their readiness to join with the local agents in making any reasonable percentage reduction in preferred rates, provided the local agents will, at the same time, agree to make the same percentage reduction in their commissions on preferred business. The companies claim that in every other large city where preferred rates have been reduced it has been found that commissions have still remained high, and that the expected saving in expense did not come. There is also complaint that the preferred classification in Chicago is very much different from that prevailing elsewhere, and that the fact that preferred rates have been reduced in other cities is no argument for Chicago, where conditions are materially different.

After having stated in print that life insurance policies were being given away in exchange for proxies, and making general **charges of the prevalence of rebating, T. W. Lawson,** upon hearing that Insurance Commissioner Cutting of Massachusetts had said that evidence of such misdemeanors was hard to obtain, called upon that official Thursday morning. Mr. Lawson had with him a policy issued by one of "the big three," upon which he declared that no payment had been made, and claimed to have evidence to support his position. He did not leave the policy or the evidence with the Commissioner, and departed after a chat on insurance conditions in general, during which he said he would have his evidence photographed and made public. On being questioned about this call Commissioner Cutting said that Mr. Lawson was "a very entertaining gentleman and pleasing conversationalist," but a company could not be driven out of business in that State for merely violating the rebate law. The Commissioner said he would have to have more than the policy and affidavit.

The statements of the **British marine companies** show almost unprecedentedly poor results in 1905, due, it is said, principally to reckless plunging on war risks during the Russo-Japanese war and also to inadequate rates. This last is getting to be a very serious matter, not only for the for-

eign companies, but for the Americans also. Many of the old established British companies are so well fixed financially that the interest earnings on their investments are sufficient to more than pay the dividends to stockholders. Where this is the case they have taken to underwriting at almost nominal rates. The newer companies and the American concerns are obliged to meet these rates or lose the business, and the result is that there is but little profit in marine underwriting in a poor year. Commenting on this state of affairs London *Fairplay* criticises the English companies unmercifully, and advises sarcastically that they give up underwriting and its attendant hazards and satisfy the dividend desiring stockholders out of the interest on the investments.

The **departure of ex-President McCurdy** with members of his family for Europe on Thursday was made the occasion for much fevered description by the yellow reporters, who assembled in large numbers and followed the family from their home in Morristown to the steamer's side, making desperate efforts from time to time to obtrude their unwashed and unsavory persons into the unwelcomed presence of the travelers. One of the "sleuths," more foolhardy than the others, was punched in the nose by a servant of the family and had the protector arrested. The punched took out his revenge in a superheated account of Mr. McCurdy's condition, which he represented as being on the verge of collapse and idiocy. The ex-president will remain abroad during the summer, as has been his custom for a number of years. Mr. Robert H. McCurdy did not go, and after the departure of his father returned to Morristown.

It is expected that the complaints in **the suits** which the New York Life insurance company is to bring **against the estate of John A. McCall and Andrew Hamilton** will be filed early next week. The work of conducting these suits was delegated to the Fowler committee of the New York Life, and John G. Milburn and ex-Justice William A. Keener, the counsel for the committee, have been busy drawing up the papers. These are now all prepared, and the actual beginning of the suits now only awaits some of the details of attending to the affairs of Mr. McCall, especially the filing and probating of his will. It is reported that the heirs of John A. McCall have been in consultation recently with counsel for the purpose of ascertaining the possibility of taking action by the estate against several of the New York Life's trustees.

The recent elevator loss at Duluth furnished the first crucial test of the **fire resisting qualities of concrete construction** in elevator plants. The crib elevator was destroyed, but no damage was done to any of the thirty-five steel and concrete bins, several of which directly faced the burned building. Only these were insured at all. These bins were 110 feet high, with a steel frame covered with concrete. None of the concrete walls were even cracked, and the steel framework was so well protected that it did not expand, although the heat from the burning building broke glass in the windows a half mile away across the bay on the shore of which the elevator was located. It is probable that no claim will be made for damage to the grain in the concrete tanks.

The **Life Underwriters' Association** of Central Massachusetts met in Worcester, Mass., February 22, for its sixth annual session, and elected the following officers: President, Lester V. Bailey, Provident Life and Trust; vice presidents, John E. Maher, Prudential, and P. J. Brown, Metropolitan; secretary and treasurer, Dana M. Dustan, Connecticut Mutual; executive committee, Henry L. Trafford, New York Life; Ludwig Johnson, Phœnix Mutual; James F. Ferre, Mutual Life; John D. Baldwin, State Mutual; Guy F. Wheeler, Northwestern; George H. Vars, State Mutual (ex-officio); Chester E. Greene, John Hancock (ex-officio). The guests who also spoke included Charles W. Scovel, of Pittsburgh, president of the National Association.

Before a special joint session of the **Rutland, Vt.,** city council and a committee of citizens appointed by the mayor, an investigation was held this week of **conditions responsible for the fire** of Sunday, February 18, which destroyed six of the largest mercantile blocks. Fire Chief G. W. Dunton gave his opinion of the inadequacy of his department, and recommended doubling the number of call men. There are at present twenty of these and ten regulars. That the hydrants and water mains should be larger was the opinion of Chief A. C. Grover of the water department. The unsatisfactory condition of fire fighting facilities in Rutland was the cause of severe criticism recently by the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

The **National Life of the U. S. of A.,** as it expected, lost its suit for an injunction to restrain the circulation of libelous statements regarding it in the court at Galesburg, Ill., where a firm of attorneys was working up business for itself by making them. The Supreme Court of Illinois has twice decided that an injunction against libelous statements cannot be issued, and the decision of the court was in accordance with this, the court holding that the statements were both defamatory and libelous, but that the only remedy was a suit for libel. The National Life promptly began two suits for $50,000 each against the authors of the circulars, one for libel and the other for conspiracy to wrongfully extort money.

The **Connecticut Life Underwriters' Association** met at the Hartford Club February 20 in annual session. President Charles W. Scovel, of the National Association, read a paper entitled "The Scope of the Life Insurance Principle." Dr. George S. Miller, of Hartford, superintendent of agents for the Phœnix Mutual also spoke. The officers and executive committee elected were: President, Frank G. Burnham, Hartford; first vice president, Eli D. Weeks, Litchfield; second vice president, F. W. Hodge, New Haven, secretary-treasurer, Thomas W. Russell, Hartford; executive committee, F. Willson Rogers, chairman; Philip G. Gorton, Alfred T. Richards, Arthur W. Rood, C. B. Andrews, all of Hartford.

The **rate troubles** which have long been feared **at St. Joseph, Mo.,** have begun. J. N. Burnes' agency has gone on the warpath. The Hartford Fire, which recently opened an independent office there, is meeting the rates on preferred business, and it is expected that all the companies will be dragged in. There has been bad blood at St. Joseph ever since it was proved that Mr. Burnes, after ostensibly selling out all his Union companies to A. S. McGhee, really owned the agency and was thus securing graded commissions illegally. Four months ago McGhee resigned all his companies and took in the Hartford, and troubles have been threatening ever since.

There have been some very disquieting rumors sent out within the past two weeks as to the **condition of Governor Pattison,** president of the Union Central Life insurance company, but we are pleased to say that we have most reassuring words from the home office of the company that President Pattison, while still quite weak, as a result of his recent illness, which was an attack of nervous prostration, is making as rapid progress toward recovery as could be expected under the cir-

cumstances. The statements of some of the sensational papers that he is "incapable of consecutive thought" is preposterous. His political opponents would be very joyful if it were so.

The *Review* of London prints the following letter received by a British policyholder from **President Charles A. Peabody,** of the Mutual Life, in reply to the question whether he is connected with the **Standard Oil Company:**

DEAR SIR—I received your letter of December 29, and thank you very much for your thoughtfulness. It relates to a matter, however, in which I have no interest. The statements in the newspapers, as to my connection with the Standard Oil Company, are nothing but the dreams of sensational journalism, or the malicious product of those who wish to injure the company. I have never had, and have not now, any connection or interest in the oil business. I am glad you have thus given me an opportunity to contradict the erroneous reports. Very truly yours,

CHARLES A. PEABODY, President.

Last year's enormous **loss record on the great lakes** has awakened lake underwriters to a realization that rates are too low. A meeting of the underwriters will be held in Buffalo in the near future, at which an increase in rates will be discussed and doubtless decided upon. While the losses were principally on hull risks last year, the increase will probably include cargoes as well. The matter of ballast will also be taken up at this meeting. Shipowners seem to be losing sight of the importance of carrying sufficient ballast for the protection of their vessels, and it's up to the underwriters to bring the matter to a head.

Five years of existence were celebrated Wednesday by the **Insurance Society of New York** with a meeting and banquet at the Underwriters' Club, 73 William street, New York. Secretary Farquharson, in his annual report, reviewed the events of the monthly meetings. The officers elected were: President, R. P. Barbour; vice presidents, C. F. Shallcross, F. H. Douglass, E. K. Beddall and A. M. Thorburn; secretary, P. G. Farquharson; treasurer, J. B. Brickelmaier; executive committee, F. W. Mayes, W. D. Grier, H. D. Gree, F. J. T. Stewart, F. H. McFadden, John W. Collins and H. B. Churchill.

The establishment of a new insurance agency and brokerage firm at 56-58 Pine street, New York, by the **H. E. Roberts Company** is announced. Mr. Roberts is our former esteemed contemporary on the *Surveyor* and the late second vice president of the Interstate Life insurance company of Indianapolis. The lines undertaken will be life, fire, health, accident, burglary, liability, plate glass and steam boiler. Mr. Roberts has all the qualities for success in business in the metropolis, and his friends here are glad that he has decided to settle "in our midst."

It is reported in Newark, N. J., that the long looked for acquisition by the **Newark Fire Insurance Exchange** of jurisdiction over that part of Essex County which was formerly under the supervision of the Middle Department is soon to be realized. This is a change that has been advocated by local agents and by many specials for a long time, as the Oranges are in effect a part of Newark from an insurance viewpoint. No positive action has yet been made, but it is believed that the matter will be taken up at the next meeting of the Exchange.

In the case of the complaint of the Connecticut Fire insurance company against the St. Paul Fire and Marine, the German American and German Alliance companies of New York, charging **violation of the anti-compact law** of **South Dakota,** while Insurance Commissioner Perkins has not yet formally announced his decision in the case, such action will be taken within a few days, in which the complaint will be dismissed on the ground of lack of sufficient evidence to sustain the charges, says a Pierre press dispatch.

A new life and accident insurance company, to be known as the **Detroit Life and Liability,** and backed by Detroit capital, is being organized under Michigan laws. The capital stock is $100,000, and the surplus will be about $500,000. A. S. Miller, the president of the new company, is head of the Citizens Life. Other officers are Philip Breitmeyer, treasurer, and Henry C. Walters, counsel. Life policies, chiefly non-participating, will be written as well as accident business, and perhaps two other lines.

The secretary of the **National Fire Protective Association** has issued a bulletin regarding the work of the committee on factory standards. The first to be done is to devise a standard for mill constructed buildings, which will be used as a basis for all classes of risks, the specifications covering construction, protection and arrangement of hazards. A number of subcommittees have been appointed to construct standards for different classifications of the factory risk.

The report of the Boston Protective Department, issued Thursday, shows **fire premium receipts in Boston** during the second half of 1905 amounting to $1,769,471, which, added to $2,022,643, the receipts for the first half, makes a total of $3,792,114 for the entire year. The companies whose premium receipts exceeded $100,000 in Boston during the year were: Liverpool and London and Globe, $142,739; Royal, $135,593; Home of New York, $136,786.

On Tuesday **$100,000** was paid by the Equitable Life on a **policy of the late William S. Pyle,** of the firm of James Pyle & Sons, of New York. The premiums paid were $54,560. Insurance in other companies was carried by Mr. Pyle to the amount of $105,000. The Equitable also paid on Tuesday $170,320 on the life of Orator F. Woodward, of Le Roy, N. Y., on which he had paid in premiums of $93,401. Mr. Woodward was insured elsewhere for $153,000.

Writing to the Chicago *Record-Herald* from New York William E. Curtis, its correspondent, says that it is the **opinion among** newspaper men and **politicians** that the larger part of the money paid by the New York Life to Andrew Hamilton "stuck to his fingers." The opinion of the politicians is important, because as they run legislatures they should know whether any part of the money reached those immaculate bodies.

There has been organized at Onancock, Va., the **Eastern Shore of Virginia Fire insurance company,** backed by capital in Accomack and Northampton counties. Already $64,000 of the proposed $100,000 capital has been subscribed, and headquarters will be at Keller. The following officers have been chosen: E. T. Powell, president; R. S. Allworth, vice president; Charles B. Means, secretary; Thomas W. Blackstone, treasurer.

The **Manufacturers' Alliance,** recently organized by the Williamsons, who ran the Indemnity Exchange **in Chicago,** has enrolled enough members to offer insurance to the extent of $25,000 on plants which warrant the maximum line. On plants without sprinkler protection, or with buildings not so scattered as to assure only a partial loss in event of fire,

the lines are limited to lesser amounts, averaging under $15,000.

Complaint has been made that fire insurance departments having jurisdiction in **Alabama** have notified their agents to send **dailies** direct to headquarters, although the rules of the South Eastern Tariff Association require them to go through the stamping office at Huntsville. It has been suggested that the pledge of good faith which controls in the Western Union should also prevail in relations with other organizations.

Some of the **Chicago** contractors are engaged on so many buildings at once that material and machinery are scattered among the various jobs, and they are demanding a **contractors' floater.** This has now been authorized by the Chicago Board, with a rate of 2 per cent., the interest of the assured covering the value of all materials on premises and the value of all work done thereon, wherever located.

The following officers have been elected by the newly organized **Life Underwriters' Association of Savannah, Ga.:** President, Julian Schley; first vice president, Cornelius F. Moses; second vice president, E. S. Stoddard. secretary and treasurer, Benjamin J. Apple; executive committee, M. L. Byck, E. H. O'Connor, B. D. Haine, W. H. Morehouse, Thomas J. Arline.

The storehouse of Granite Mill No. 2 at Fall River, Mass., was destroyed by fire, attributed to **spontaneous combustion,** Wednesday afternoon. It contained 1,500 bales of cotton, and the loss is estimated at $125,000. The risk was unsprinkled, yet the mill mutuals carried $135,000 on it on representations that it was not likely to be used for the storage of a large amount of stock.

The creation of a special office of **insurance commissioner** is probable **in Iowa,** divesting the State Auditor of the insurance portion of his duties. The Legislature believes that there is enough in the latter to keep a man busy. This will probably eliminate the demand of the fraternals for the appointment of a special insurance commissioner for fraternals.

An application for permission to increase its capital stock from $100,000 to $200,000 has been made by the **Midland National Fire of St. Louis,** organized in January with the backing of the American Guaranty Fund Mutual. The company has applied for admission to Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan, New Jersey, Texas and Arkansas.

Opinion of Lou Payne, ex-Superintendent of Insurance of New York, on the anti-lobby clause in the bills reported by the Armstrong Committee:

> That is a childish performance. It seems to be silly, just silly. There have been lawyers hired to represent great interests at all times, and the practice will continue in the future.

The **American Surety Company** of New York has secured an injunction in the local court at Austin, Tex., preventing Constable Miller and Deputy Brodie from levying on its securities in the State treasury in order to satisfy a number of judgments against the American Legion of Honor, on the supersedeas bond of which the surety company had gone.

Some **recent bank burglaries** are reported by the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation as follows: December 28, Bank of Moore, Oklahoma, $1,000 loss; W. A. Cameron's bank, Elliott, Ill., damaged; January 18, J. C. Beattie (banker), Ellwood, Ill., $1,700 loss; Merchants National Bank, Topeka, Kan., damaged.

Judgment in the **Nigretia cargo case** has been delivered in favor of the Yang-tsze Insurance Association of Shanghai. The action was brought against the association in Shanghai by the owners of the cargo to recover a loss on the cargo policies by reason of the steamer Nigretia's seizure by the Japanese.

The **Commonwealth Life insurance company of Baltimore** has been incorporated by J. Leiper Winslow, C. Herbert Thomas, Wm. D. Allen, J. Herbert Whitehurst and Milton Dashiell. The authorized capital stock is $125,000, divided into 12,500 shares of $10 each.

Two women have been **convicted of arson** in the District Court at Minneapolis, Minn. They are Mrs. Emma Yates and Miss Emma Anderson, who set fire to their grocery store to gain the insurance. The minimum sentence for arson is ten years in Minnesota.

The **Catholic** churches in Cleveland have given up their plan for organizing a **company to insure church property** in order to secure lower rates, and an endeavor will be made to secure some form of contract with the board by which a rebate can be secured.

The **Toledo Association of Life Underwriters** elected the following officers at the annual meeting on February 17: President, E. L. Briggs; first vice president, C. E. Holt; second vice president, Wm. H. Filler; secretary and treasurer, J. W. Crook.

Proceedings looking toward the exclusion of the **United States Fidelity and Guarantee** from Indiana have been begun by that State, owing to the removal on the company's part to the Federal Court of a contested claim case at South Bend, Ind.

The accident companies will not dread the **Fourth of July in Iowa** so much as they have heretofore, as the Legislature of that State has enacted a law prohibiting the importation and use of toy pistols, giant firecrackers, etc., on that occasion.

Under the direction of Daniel Woodcock and other fire insurance interests in New York city the **Peoples Fire insurance company of New York,** with a proposed capital of $200,000 and a paid in surplus of $40,000, is being organized.

The **Detroit Conference** of accident and health insurance companies and associations was in session at Detroit this week, and the program of proceedings which we recently printed was carried out before an interested assemblage.

Owing to the illness of W. F. Bechtel, former president of the **Northwestern National Life** of Minneapolis, the trials of the indicted former officials of the company have been postponed until the April term of the court.

The Illinois Insurance Department has completed its examination of the **North American Accident Company of Chicago** to verify its increase in capital stock from $100,000 to $200,000, and has issued its certificate.

The executive committee of the **South Eastern Tariff Association** has set May 16, 17 and 18 as the dates for the **annual**

meeting, which will probably take place at Old Point Comfort, Va.

Announcement has been made by President H. T. Lamey, of the new **Imperial insurance company of Denver,** that his company had begun writing business in Colorado and New Mexico.

A building permit has been issued at Hartford for the **new** nine story office **building of the Travelers,** to be erected at Main and Grove streets, at a cost of $750,000.

At Columbus, Ohio, the **Ohio State Life insurance company** was chartered on Saturday last to do a general life and accident business. The capital is $100,000.

The **coal dealers** of Iowa and Nebraska are organizing a **fire insurance company** on the mutual plan, claiming that stock rates are excessive.

All paid in is the $200,000 additional capital voted February 15 by the stockholders of the **Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania.**

The **British and Foreign Marine insurance company** shows in its annual report for 1905 a profit of £52,206, after providing for outstanding risks.

The Calumet insurance company of Chicago and the Atlanta-Birmingham of Atlanta, Ga., have been **admitted to Washington State.**

The **John R. Waters inter-insurance organization** in New York has lost its line on the Sears-Roebuck Company of Chicago.

The **American Hominy Company** is returning its $250,000 line of insurance from the mutuals to the stock companies.

The **Delaware Fire of Dover,** Del., was admitted to Massachusetts Monday.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

American Bonding of Baltimore: Philip S. Clarke, resident agent for Brooklyn.

American of Philadelphia, and Spring Garden: W. N. Merritt, of Fort Dodge, Ia., State agent for Iowa and Nebraska.

County Fire of Philadelphia: Rice & Whitney, Boston.

Delaware Fire of Dover, Del.: Gilmour & Coolidge, Boston.: J. F. Stone & Co., general agents for eastern Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia.

Georgia Home of Columbus, Ga.: Truman W. Eustis, late associate manager of the Atlas, general agent for Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Missouri, with headquarters at Chicago.

John Hancock Mutual Life: White & Fenwick, Newark, State agents for New Jersey.

Newark Fire: J. E. Lawton & Son, agents for St. Louis.

Pennsylvania Fire: L. L. King, special agent for Minnesota.

Royal Exchange: Thomas Cooper, manager at Chicago, succeeding J. E. Hendry, resigned.

St. Paul Fire and Marine: McClure Kelly, general agent for the Southeastern field, succeeding the late Harry Young, with headquarters in Atlanta. Mr. Kelly will continue the general agency of McClure Kelly & Co. at Houston, Tex., with his brother in charge.

Union of Philadelphia: A. W. Sewall, its New England special agent, general agent, with headquarters at Boston.

Mr. Samuel T. Gordon, an examiner in the home office of the Western business of the Equitable of Providence, has been appointed special agent for Iowa, Missouri and Nebraska, with headquarters at Kansas City. As a result of the rearrangement of the territory, W. A. Munns will have Illinois, Indiana, western Kentucky and St. Louis, and A. N. Evans will have Ohio, eastern Kentucky, West Virginia and western Pennsylvania.

Insurance Superintendent Hendricks holds on to office, and there is no indication that Governor Higgins has any present intention of appointing his successor. There are new candidates every day, according to the Albany correspondents. Some of the "reformers" are urging Matthew Fleming, of counsel for the Armstrong Committee, for the place. Counsel Charles E. Hughes is boomed for Governor of New York by the *World*.

Mr. Robert H. Wass, agency department manager for the Franklin Fire of Philadelphia, died suddenly there on Saturday last after more than ten years' faithful service with the Franklin's agency department. He was special agent of the North British and Mercantile when Samuel P. Blagden was the United States manager.

Mr. J. Clements Shafer, of Atlanta, Ga., formerly with the Hartford Life, has closed with the Pacific-Conservative Life for the northern Georgia territory. Mr. Shafer has been in New York for several days, conferring with the Eastern manager of the Pacific-Conservative.

Mr. E. H. Adams, of Boston, the oldest policyholder of the Equitable Life of New York, died Monday, and thereby matured a $10,000 ordinary life policy, issued in 1859, when the deceased was twenty years of age. It was No. 8 on the company's books.

Former President Frank E. Dooling of the Illinois Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents, who is under indictment for alleged embezzlement of funds from the Court of Honor, has been ousted as a member of the supreme board of directors.

Messrs. Ira J. Mason & Son, the Chicago agency firm established thirty years ago, has been discontinued owing to the death of the senior member of the firm. Mr. Fred. B. Mason continues as general agent for the Ætna Life in Chicago.

Postmaster William E. Chapple, of Sylvania, near Toledo, Ohio, and agent there for the Insurance Company of North America, has been arrested, charged with appropriating $5,265 of the company's funds in the shape of premiums.

Mr. John Eddy, manager of the life and accident department of the Travelers at Des Moines, has been made supervisor of agencies for Iowa. Luther Ferris, manager of the Travelers for Ontario, succeeds him at Des Moines.

Mr. Henry Morrison will hereafter confine his Hartford Fire special agency to Kentucky, while Mr. Meek, who has been an examiner in the Chicago office of the company, will take the supervision of West Virginia.

Mr. Thomas D. Jordan, former comptroller of the Equitable Life, was located this week at Hot Springs, Ark., where he was staying at the Park Hotel. The day after his discovery he left for other parts.

Mr. Michael Clifford, special agent at Stevens Point, Wis., for the National Life of Vermont, died from heart disease and dropsy at his home there February 10. He was fifty-nine years of age.

Second Vice President Tarbell, of the Equitable, denies that he is at odds with Messrs. Ryan and Morton, or that he has heard of any movement on their part to dispense with his services.

Mr. Stephen Martindale, Sr., for the last thirty years a prominent underwriter of La Crosse, Wis., died there February 10 of heart disease, aged eighty-two years.

Mr. Horace Carpenter, secretary for some years of the Sun Mutual Fire of New Orleans, but since retired, died there February 16, aged seventy years.

Mr. Thomas M. Haynes, of the insurance firm of Wade & Haynes, of St. Joseph, Mo., died there from pneumonia February 17, aged seventy-seven years.

Mr. Nicholas R. Wall, president of the St. Louis Fire Insurance Agents' Association, has resigned, and has been succeeded by Mr. Harry M. Coudrey.

Mr. Samuel M. Huston has been elected to succeed his father, the late M. A. Huston, as secretary of the Louisville Fire insurance company.

Mr. John T. Davis, a veteran insurance agent at Mahanoy City, Pa., died there February 21.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

DES MOINES, Ia., February 22.—House Bill No. 251, introduced by Mr. McCulloch, provides that where property is insured which is located within 50 feet of property belonging to another person, if in the judgment of the public authorities the said property shall be deemed to be insured beyond its fair market value, they shall at once notify the insurer carrying the insurance, and if the said insurer shall fail to reduce such insurance upon the receipt of such notice, then in case of loss by

fire, the insurer shall be held liable for the full amount of the insurance named in the policy or policies, and all such insurance in excess of three-fourths, of the actual value of the property insured and destroyed shall be paid into the school funds and the insured shall only recover three-fourths of the actual loss.

The Committee on Insurance has introduced House Bill 270 to provide for the publication of annual statements by newspapers.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., February 22.—The Governor sent to the council, for members of the new insurance commission, the names of ex-Governor Bates, William Whitman, of Brookline, and F. H. Nash, of Cambridge. The duty of this commission is to recodify the insurance laws and to be available for consultation as experts on such matters as the joint committee on insurance may bring to their attention, or as to which the executive department may desire expert information. Ex-Governor Bates was the chairman of the insurance committee on the part of the House while in the Legislature. He is a member of several of the fraternal orders.

Mr. Whitman is one of the best known business men in the United States, actively engaged in textile manufacturing, and as president of the policyholders' committee of the New York Equitable Life Assurance Society has been active in the overturn of abuses in New York insurance. He is now a director general in reorganizing the Equitable. Mr. Nash was until January Assistant Attorney General of Massachusetts.

Mississippi.

JACKSON, Miss., February 24.—House Bill No. 315, introduced by Mr. Alcorn, provides that it shall be unlawful for any agent of a fire insurance company to sign any blank policy of insurance, and any agent violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined for each offense not less than $100, nor more than $200. It shall also be unlawful for any person, licensed by the Insurance Commissioner to act as a fire insurance agent in this State, to pay directly or indirectly any commission, brokerages or other valuable consideration on account of any policy or policies covering property in this State, to any person, agent, firm or corporation not duly licensed by the Insurance Commissioner of this State as a fire insurance agent.

Mr. Alcorn has introduced a bill requiring residents of this State placing fire insurance with unlicensed foreign companies to report the same to the Insurance Commissioner and pay 4 per cent. tax of gross premiums paid on insurance so placed.

Mr. Alcorn has also introduced a bill to provide for the organization by fire insurance companies doing business in the State of a "fire prevention bureau."

New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., February 26.—Senator Colby and Assemblyman Martin tonight introduced a twin resolution providing for investigations by committees of the Senate and House of insurance companies and subsidiary concerns, particularly trust companies. After hot debate it was referred to the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and Banking and Insurance Committee of the House.

Mr. Martin gave notice he would move next Monday night to relieve committees of his resolutions. He declared their efforts seemed to be made to smother investigation. This was denied.

Mr. Colby said the Massachusetts Insurance Department had failed to get proper information from New Jersey concerning securities of the Fidelity Trust Company.

TRENTON, N. J., February 28.—Mr. Minturn has introduced Senate Bill No. 177, which provides for a fund to be known as "the insurance fund," by every city. It is to be used only for the purpose of insuring and making good any loss sustained by fire, and shall take the place of any insurance existing upon any municipal building in such city at the expiration of the policies now issued and outstanding against loss by fire.

Senator Minturn introduced on Tuesday Senate Bill No. 177, enabling cities to carry their own insurance on municipal buildings. The bill requires a finance board to set aside annually a sum equal to the product of one-third of a mill calculated on the entire city assessment, to constitute an insurance fund to be managed by a sinking fund commission.

Senate Bill No. 34, providing that the tax paid to firemen's relief associations shall be considered the 2 per cent. tax required by law, has passed both bodies.

TRENTON, N. J., February 28.—The only other insurance legislative action taken this week was the effort of Senator Colby and Assemblyman Martin, of Essex County, to force an insurance investigation. These legislators are the Essex County reformers, and are generally accredited with being the political enemies of Senator John F. Dryden, head of the Prudential insurance company. This may explain some of their evident ill feeling toward the Prudential. The majority of the Legislature is opposed to any further insurance investigation, believing that the New York inquiry was thorough enough.

However, Senator Hillery, the Republican leader in the Senate, has arranged for another hearing on the Colby resolution to be held Wednesday of next week, March 7, at noon. He is the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, which has the Colby resolution in charge. It is not likely that the committee will report on the resolution until the following week, and that will leave only two weeks more of the session. Thus the chances are that there will be no investigation, although something may happen to upset this calculation.

The general belief is that the Banking and Insurance Department of the State has ample control over the insurance business done here. Commissioner Watkins has given public denial this week to the intimations of Senator Colby that his department has refused to give information to the commissioners of other States.

Senator Colby does not make any direct charges of crookedness in Jersey insurance, but keeps reiterating that he wants to have an investigation to make sure that no crookedness exists.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 22.—Mr. Lupton has introduced House Bill No. 740 amending Section 137 of the insurance law relative to licenses to agents in excepted cases so as to provide that the affidavits required to be filed with the Insurance Department shall set forth among other things that the party desiring insurance is unable to procure insurance "at the same rate of premium at which such insurance can be procured of insurance companies organized under the laws of other States and transacting business under the supervision of the Insurance Department of such State, and having a cash capital of surplus and cash assets amounting to at least $100,000, but which are not authorized to do business in this State. The provisions of this act shall apply to reinsurance obtained by any insurance company authorized to transact business in this State on property located within this State, as fully as if the property reinsured were insured by the owner thereof in the company reinsuring."

ALBANY, N. Y., February 23.—Senator Frawley has introduced a concurrent resolution for the appointment of a joint committee of three Senators and five Assemblymen to investigate the business of industrial insurance. It was laid on the table.

Mr. Whitley introduced House Bill No. 816, which provides that policies of life insurance hereafter issued shall not be rendered void because of any untrue statement in any application for

such policy, unless it is made in bad faith and pertains to matters material to the risk.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 26.—Two more bills by the Armstrong Committee were introduced tonight in both houses.

The first bill does not affect any fraternal organization now in business in the State, but provides that no such organization shall be incorporated in the State in the future, and further provides that no fraternal organization now existing outside of the State shall in the future receive a license to do business within the State. It is also provided in the bill that fraternal organizations must maintain a reserve equal to the cost of insurance up to the time of the next assessment, thus preventing special assessments.

The bill providing for standard forms which all life insurance companies doing business in the State will be compelled to follow in the future sets forms for straight life, limited payment, endowment and term policies.

Each form of policy contains some changes from policies now used. The changes are most numerous in the straight life. An important new provision of this policy is that the company shall pay on notice of death and receipt of proof. Heretofore the notice of death also had to contain the cause. The policyholder may change the beneficiary of his policy at his option.

In the straight life policies is a new provision that any condition with regard to suicide or conditions of travel shall be effective for one year only.

Policyholders may allow deferred dividends to accumulate or demand a settlement at any time.

The failure to repay interest on any loans made by the company shall not lead to the forfeiture of the policy until the amount of the interest due equals the amount due on the policy.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 27.—Mr. Oglesby today introduced House Bill No. 860, adding five new sections to the insurance law, which provide that no oral or written misrepresentation shall be deemed material to void a fire insurance policy unless it be shown affirmatively by the insurer that it was made with intent to defraud. In all policies all conditions shall be stated in full. No bylaw shall be considered part of a policy except so far as it is incorporated in full. No policy shall require the insured to be co-insurer with the company, and insertion of waiver in the policy is forbidden.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 2.—There has been nothing in insurance legislation this week to demand attention apart from the introduction of the two special committee bills relating to standard policies, etc. The Armstrong Committee, with the Assembly Standing Committee, have had several joint executive sessions to consider procedure to be followed at the public hearing on the Armstrong Committee bills at the capitol on March 9. Extra copies of these bills have been ordered from the State printer for the use of the members and for public distribution prior to the hearing. Meantime all insurance legislation will remain in a quiescent state.

The bills introduced by the Armstrong Committee in the Legislature this week were as follows:

Assembly No. 517. To amend the general corporation law relative to political contributions by corporations.

Assembly No. 518. To amend the general corporation law relative to the acquisition of real property by life insurance companies.

Assembly No. 519. To amend the penal code relative to the crime of perjury.

Assembly No. 520. Providing for the election of directors of life insurance corporations. All elections are postponed until November 15 next, when the terms of present directors will cease and new directors will be chosen by the direct or proxy votes of policyholders, one-half to hold office one year from date, the other two years.

Assembly No. 521. To amend the legislative law relative to services in legislative matters. This regulates the expenditure of money by persons appearing before the Legislature in advocacy of or opposition to pending bills.

Assembly No. 522. To amend the penal code relating to rebates and allowances by life corporations. This prohibits rebating of commissions.

Assembly No. 523. To amend the penal code in relation to the misconduct of officers and employees of corporations. This makes the concurrence knowingly in any material statement which is false or the omission of any statement required by law a misdemeanor.

Assembly No. 946. To amend the insurance law relative to mutual benefit associations.

Assembly No. 835. Relating to the admission to transact business in this State of co-operative or assessment insurance corporations organized under the laws of other States, and to the admission to transact business in other States of such corporations or associations organized under the laws of this State.

Assembly No. 996. To amend the insurance law generally. In this act provision is made for the prohibition of participation in financial syndicates by officers and directors of companies as such, examinations of companies, mutualization of stock companies, prohibition of estimates and misrepresentations by agents, accounting and distribution of surplus, valuation of policies, regulation of proxy voting, limitation of new business, loadings upon net premiums, limitation of expenses, salaries of officers and agents, vouchers for disbursements, regulation of investments, standard forms of policies, prohibition of non-participating business by companies issuing participation policies, annual reports and conditions relating to corporations of other States and countries.

Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, February 28.—Senator Harper introduced Senate Bill No. 179, which provides that when a "wildcat" fire insurance company applies for admission to the State the Insurance Commissioner shall first require it to pay all penalties for violation of the laws and collect from it in addition 20 per cent. of premiums collected by it in the State for the six years next preceding.

A bill introduced by Senator Harper provides that the State Insurance Superintendent may appoint a warden to investigate all cases of alleged violation of the insurance laws by insurance companies.

Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., February 28.—The Williams House bill reenacting the Wharton anti-compact bill has passed the House by a vote of 65 to 23. It is likely to fail in the Senate.

Miscellany.

The Armstrong Committee Bills—Prominent Life Underwriters Talk About Their Effect on the Business if They Become Laws.

The New York *Times* of Monday printed the following statement of an interview with "a prominent official of one of the large life insurance companies," in which the changes in the insurance law of New York, proposed in the measures introduced in the Legislature by the special committee of which Senator Armstrong is chairman, are discussed:

He told a *Times* reporter yesterday that if some of the recommendations of the Armstrong Committee were enacted into laws this would drive many of the small life insurance con-

cerns in the State out of business altogether and result in serious losses to the larger ones.

"The well meaning and benevolent politicians," said this official, "realized that it required some sort of grand stand play to save the Republican Party in this State. They had heard the public clamor against Wall Street and intended this investigation to be a blow against the money power. But the men who control the large financial enterprises of the country are unhitable, and the politicians hit the policyholders instead, and hit them good and hard." The

ANNUAL ACCOUNTING AND THE LIMITING OF THE SURPLUS

of the companies were the most serious mistakes committed by the investigators, this insurance official said.

"The report on the whole is good," he said, "and some of its provisions are splendid. The mistakes are largely due to a failure to understand the technical problems that confront life insurance companies.

"The committee quite naturally has been influenced by public opinion. The time will come when the public will realize that in requiring life insurance companies to pay dividends to policyholders annually a mistake has been committed. The committee in its desire to meet the public demand has made an effort to require the companies to pay as much as possible of the profits to the policyholders, forgetting that the thing most important to the latter is the safety of the companies, not merely for the time being but ten, twenty, or even fifty years from now, as many contracts or policies will not mature for that length of time.

"For instance, the recommendations provide that hereafter companies may accumulate only a definite amount of surplus, and that everything beyond that must be annually distributed among the policyholders. It would have been much wiser to provide for a minimum of surplus that a company must accumulate before paying any dividend.

"The members of the committee seem to forget that this country has been exceedingly prosperous for a great number of years, or evidently reason from that that we must continue to have good crops and good times, with no panics and no disasters.

DANGER OF TOO SMALL A SURPLUS.

"When protecting the interests of widows and orphans more conservative reasoning would be better. Surely there will come a time in this country within the next twenty-five years when the amount of surplus that they permit a company to accumulate, under the proposed laws, will be more than wiped out by the natural depreciation of the companies' assets, and that through no fault of the officers of the companies. These assets in the case of the three largest life insurance concerns amount to about $400,000,000 each. The surplus provided for is only $10,000,000, which would allow for less than 2½ per cent. of fluctuation in the value of the assets."

The insurance official then called attention to the fact that in 1903—when the prosperity of the country was at high tide—one of the largest and oldest life insurance companies lost $10,000,000 in one year through the shrinking in value of its assets. Anything like such a loss to any company under the proposed law, the insurance man said, would compel the Attorney General of the State to ask for the appointment of a receiver for that particular company, with no end of loss to the holders of its policies.

"It should be remembered that life insurance has had its trials before," the official continued. "During the 70's more than half of the companies reporting to the New York State Insurance Department failed. Many of them failed because of the extravagant dividends which they paid, and which were not earned, but taken out of their surplus solely for the purpose of inducing more business. This was largely the reason why at that time the annual payment of dividends was done away with."

In discussing the Armstrong Committee's recommendation for the limiting of new business, this official said that this was perhaps the greatest mistake the investigators had committed.

"In seeking to cure the evils of the insurance business," he said, "they are

PRACTICALLY KILLING THE BUSINESS

itself. Especially is that true in regard to the smaller companies. They cannot live and do business within the limits fixed by the committee.

"The committee seems to have overlooked the fact that it has cost the smaller companies a great deal more to get their business than it has cost the larger ones, and that in their efforts to limit the business of the larger companies they have practically made it impossible for the smaller companies to live at all.

"Even the business of the larger companies, under the recommendation made by the committee, will be insignificant. This will necessitate a complete revolutionizing in the present organization of the offices. Hundreds and thousands of agents who have toiled for years to learn the life insurance business will be thrown out of employment. Out of about 1,000 employees at the head offices of each of the three large companies in this city alone, at least half the number will be discharged because their services will no longer be needed. Just think of that.

"It is generally considered that there is no more beneficial business than life insurance, and that the interests of the country and its citizens demand it just as much as they do railroads and banks, and the committee should have done nothing to prevent the citizens of the State of New York from being in a position to contract for life insurance as they see fit and as is to their best advantage.

THINKS COMPANIES WILL FAIL.

"Instead, the committee's recommendations will result in driving many of the present companies out of business and prevent the formation of others."

The insurance official was asked what action the insurance companies would take to fight the passage of the bills now before the Legislature.

"No concerted action with that end in view has as yet been determined upon," was the answer. "It would be too early to say what might be done. But I have great doubt if any such action would prevail, in view of the lamentably mistaken public clamor of the present. I should not be surprised if every one of the bills passed."

"What is your opinion regarding the provision prescribing investment in certain securities and providing for the sale of some securities now held by the companies?"

"I think that provision was good and wise."

"But what will the effect of the forced sale be on the market?"

"I do not think it will have any detrimental effect. The three great life insuranec companies hold only about $100,000,000 worth of such securities, and we have five years in which to get rid of them. This will be easy, for they are all good assets.

"But this whole thing," he went on, "savors to a great extent of paternalism—which is un-American. Next thing we will hear of some law to limit the size of banks or mercantile houses, or perchance prescribing what style of dress the ladies shall wear."

VIEWS OF EMORY M'CLINTOCK.

The *Insurance Press* says that Emory McClintock, vice president of the Mutual Life and the best known actuary in the United States, regards the proposition to limit the provision against impairment to a sum as low as 2 per cent. of the net value of outstanding contracts in the case of the largest companies as a dangerous weakening of the corporations. He criticises the report on other points:

One very obnoxious feature of the report is the wide application of the misdemeanor clause to infringements of the insurance law. Particularly will this render difficult the matter of handling new business, for it will be almost impossible for the companies to tell, with whatever care they may exercise, whether or not the expenses of first year's business are, at the year's end, going to prove in excess of the first year's loading plus the mortality gains from the first five years with investment expenses deducted. It has been said that under the proposed restrictions the companies cannot write $50,000,000 business apiece. I should be disposed to think that they could not write $25,000,000 or perhaps even $10,000,000.

The proposed bills appear to dictate the policy forms, dividend conditions and expense limitations for companies organized by other States. Heretofore all legislation relating to insurance contracts and the internal management of life insurance companies has been confined to companies of the State enacting the legislation. There is no logical reason why every State should not provide its own laws for its own companies, but there is every reason why no State should meddle with the contracts or internal management of mutual companies situated in other States. It requires only a slight knowledge of past efforts in that direction, sometimes needlessly made by this State or that State, and usually soon abandoned, to realize the amount of

DISCORD AND CONFUSION

which is likely to result from so sweeping an attempt to model the companies of all the States according to the one system enacted by the Legislature of New York alone, and to be administered by the Insurance Superintendent of New York. It is a serious matter.

There is an apparent idea that it is improper to use funds belonging to present policyholders in procuring new business. This theory is quite new, and is not held seriously by any

actuary, so far as I am aware. If a company can double its business, it doubles the basis upon which to assess its fixed charges, so that the present policyholders are certainly benefited by the operation and can afford to contribute something toward the expenses. In proposing to charge the expense of new business so that it shall be borne entirely by the new policies, the committee is not only adopting a novel theory, which is without justification, but it is going squarely against the practice of all flourishing companies. The committee even contradicts the standard view anounced by Elizur Wright, founder of the Massachusetts Insurance Department. He stated expressly that each withdrawn policy should leave enough behind it to pay the cost of replacing the risk withdrawn.

In other words, the so called profits from lapsed and surrendered policies have always been considered to be justified by the necessity for securing a substitute risk. The money that was saved always has been held in theory to be applicable to that purpose. The new theory of the committee on this point, assuming it to be a theory, appears to be that any money left behind by a lapsed or surrendered policy should be divided immediately as profits to other policyholders, and not used in procuring new business.

Mr. David Parks Fackler, the veteran actuary, criticises severely the propositions to limit new business and do away with renewal commissions to agents. There are few influences as powerful for good as a proper renewal interest on the part of agents, just as growth of evil in the business has been marked by the growth of the brokerage system, leading agents to have no interest beyond securing the first premium. "The report," says Mr. Fackler, "is replete with well intended paternal provisions, which will prove impracticable or will do more harm than good."

President Dunham, of the Travelers insurance company, sees numerous impracticabilities in the committee's recommendations, and discusses the difficulty of introducing the principle of popular and equal suffrage into a large mutual company. The membership is too large and too widely scattered for the application of a practicable, workable method. He did not sympathize wholly with the suggestions of the committee prohibiting investments in stocks. That some stocks are better than some bonds there can be no question. There are many preferred and guaranteed issues that rank for productivenss and security far beyond a vast volume of bonds. Neither did it seem wise to Mr. Dunham to prohibit participation by companies in syndicates. It is often possible in this way to obtain an interest in a standard issue of bonds at a price far below that at which they are offered later by the syndicate managers. The restriction of forms of policies to a few standards Mr. Dunham thought inexpedient until more progress can be made in the enactment of uniform legislation by the States.

PRESIDENT FOUSE'S OPINIONS.

President Fouse, of the Fidelity Mutual Life of Philadelphia, is forcible in his disapproval of several features of the committee's report. He says:

It emphasizes a well known fact that it is much easier to find fault and criticise than it is to provide remedies. There is, perhaps, nothing so difficult to guide and direct as a stampede of human beings under excitement. The developments resulting from an investigation have led to a stampede in the effort to supply remedies, many of which will be as effectual as the stampede in a burning theatre or other building. Cool heads and deliberation are needed in all emergencies, and I cannot conceive of an emergency fraught with greater possibilities for good or evil to the public at large than one which involves accumulated assets of nearly four times the combined capital of all the national banks in the United States, and insurance aggregating $12,500,000,000, a sum about equal to the railroad capital of the United States.

Notwithstanding the magnitude of the interests involved and the far reaching effect of legislative blunders, notice is given, if correctly reported, that a public hearing will be given March 9, and limited to that date, before the investigating committee itself in the Assembly Chamber. The servants of the policyholders who have devoted their lives and energies to the study of the subject in the interest of the policyholders, and for which they are paid, might as well, if they are going to be limited to a few hours, refrain from taking any part and throw the entire responsibility of the revolutionary proposals and suggestions upon the Legislature and its investigating committee.

It would be impossible for students of life insurance to do the subject justice at a hearing limited to a day.

INCONSISTENT.

The committee in its report says that the Superintendent of Insurance is already clothed with sufficient power to have prevented the abuses complained of. If this be true, then what is the necessity of experimenting with eight bills making new laws, disturbing conditions as they exist, creating a conflict between States and generally disorganizing the business? If the bills were limited to some of the vital features of both the Insurance Department and company official administration, it would be quite enough to begin with. It has been recognized for years that the laws of New York in the matter of administration have been defective, but it does not follow that the laws of all the States are defective in the same particulars. To illustrate: In New York, proxies have been incorporated in the application for insurance, and are thus continued indefinitely; in Pennsylvania, proxies to be valid must not be more than sixty days old. In New York, apparently, directors or trustees need not be selected from the policyholders; in Pennsylvania they must be. In New York the rules of the company govern the election as to number, term, etc.; in Pennsylvania the directors must be elected annually.

TOO IMPORTANT TO BE RUSHED THROUGH IN HASTE.

No legislation can make an incompetent person competent, or a dishonest person honest. In the present crisis what is needed is legislation that will hold, by supervisory power, company management to a rigid accountability for what they do, but they should not be handicapped unjustly and unnecessarily in the doing. This is no time to rush through the Legislature questions of a technical character upon which the very life of the business depends. It is entirely proper that the law should require a stricter accountabilty of the disposition made of policyholders' money, and to that end the crime of forgery should attach to falsifying accounts, which is the law of Pennsylvania; and the crime of perjury should attach to making false statements. Beyond these, technical features requiring legislation should be accomplished in the process of evolution of the business and not in the process of prejudice, excitement and haste.

The impracticability of a number of the recommendations could soon be made apparent if the order could be reversed by the representatives of the insurance interests putting questions to the recommenders. I question not but what the recommenders acted in good faith and with the light they had. Unfortunately, they only had such light as the investigation of irregular transactions revealed. They were not looking for the good that had been accomplished, for the proper things that were done, etc., which cannot be ignored in legislation, but they were looking only for the improper and, naturally, it was the improper that impressed them the most. In view of this, I feel that the committee has undertaken to do too much at once, and I say this without in any degree depreciating the excellent work done by the committee in the course of its investigation.

Report of the Joint Examination of the New York Life Insurance Company by the Western Insurance Commissioners.

The report of the joint examination of the New York Life insurance company by the Insurance Departments of Tennessee, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Nebraska and Minnesota, which began September 22, 1905, was made public this week. Messrs. S. Herbert Wolfe, of New York, and William J. Graham, of Kentucky, were the examiners in charge, and they had the assistance of twenty-four persons representing the several insurance departments, together with twenty-seven appraisers.

The report would occupy forty columns of solid matter if printed in this paper.

The examiners verified the company's annual statement of 1905, showing total assets of $435,820,359, and surplus of $52,835,626. The report deals at great length with the company's system of accounting and its various financial transactions during the past ten years under the several heads of income and disbursements, legal expenses, salaries, real estate, mortgage loans, loans on collateral, bonds owned by the

company, cash in bank and other assets, liabilities, insurance on under average lives, dividend systems of the company, deferred dividend plans, discounting tontine and accumulation policies, death claims, agency department, agency organizations, non-ledger assets, and improper bookkeeping entries, and it criticises such transactions as the "United States Steel Syndicate," "New Orleans Traction Deal," "Campaign Contributions," "Hanover Bank Office Account," "Central American Bonds" and the various other relations with syndicates which the company had. These meet with reprobation in some cases. Referring to the claim of the company that most of the syndicate transactions gave it a profit, the report says:

Notwithstanding the profits which have resulted from these syndicate and joint accounts, we believe that the safety of the policyholders' funds would be conserved by cutting free from any entangling alliances in the purchase of securities. We recognize that there exists a vast difference between syndicates formed for the absolute purchase of bonds by its members and those formed for the purpose of sharing in the underwriting profits resulting from the sale of the bonds to the general public by the syndicate managers.

The excessive cost of insurance is touched upon in the report. It says that it has been due to the company's efforts to obtain a great volume of business.

The report compliments the managers on the promptness with which death claims have been settled. It says:

The death claims and matured endowment claims have been carefully examined, and your examiners take pleasure in calling your attention to the very prompt manner in which this branch of the business is handled. No undue desire to litigate was evident, and, in those cases upon which payment is resisted, the company would seem to have a good and sufficient defense. It is not an unusual thing for the claimant to receive a check the same day that the proofs of loss are filed. It is evidently the intention of the company to reduce to the minimum the time elapsing between the filing of proofs and the approval of the claim, bearing at all times in mind the necessity for conserving the interests of the remaining policyholders by insisting upon the production of all necessary documents.

Under the head of practical operations of deferred dividend plans the report says that only about 38 per cent. of the entrants complete their dividend periods and share in the profits which have accrued. The system of deferred dividends without accounting has led to the accumulation of large undivided profits, the existence of which funds would seem to be responsible for many of the evils which have crept into the business.

The commissioners in their comments on the result of the examination say:

Many of these facts reflect seriously upon the management of the company, indicating that extravagance has obtained in the conduct of the business, that accounts have been incorrectly kept and misleading statements in some instances made to supervising public officers in annual reports prior to 1905, the reports for that year having been verified by the examiners, and that portions of the funds of the company have been improperly diverted for the purpose of political contributions and other unwarrantable objects. Some restitution of the funds so diverted has already been made, and we believe that proper steps should be at once taken to secure a restitution of the remainder.

Upon the other hand, the facts show that the assets exceed in value the amount claimed in the last annual statement of the company, and that they actually amount to $435,820,359.93. That the company is possessed of $52,835,626.82 of surplus or additional reserve funds, without including the excess in the market value of the securities of the company over book value, which appears to be $5,448,472.18.

Having, however, presented the facts in full just as we believe them to be, we leave them to carry their own further comment, our main concern being the adoption in the future of such remedial methods as will eliminate the abuses here revealed, and prevent their recurrence.

The remedies suggested are control by the policyholders and publicity. The adoption by the company of a policy of distributing its investments so that a proper proportion of the funds contributed by policyholders in any State may be invested in good securities in that State is recommended.

In their concluding observations the commissioners say:

We have avoided discussing many proposed reforms in reference to the subject of life insurance. The questions relating to standard policy forms; prohibiting ambiguous contracts; providing specific means for limiting expenses, including salaries to officers and commissions and bonuses to agents; and the publishing of lists of policyholders are of absorbing interest, but reflection has convinced us that a proper system of annual accounting, judicious investments, closer relations between policyholders and management and sufficient publicity are fundamental principles, the application of which will rehabilitate the entire system, and we have determined to refrain from diverting attention from them at this time.

The New York Life insurance company has for years played in the economic life of our people as great a part as any institution of this country. It is but fair to say that while its contracts, although made pursuant to law, have been largely based, as we believe, upon erroneous principles and secured at an excessive cost, its contractual guarantees have been met with a promptness that must be admired by the most critical.

Errors have been committed by its managers, and specific transactions are disclosed in this report which can neither be excused nor condoned, but it should be remembered that this company, which during its life has seen so many financial institutions come and go, and has lived through so many changes in business conditions, can still point to assets much more than sufficient to meet its contractual liabilities.

The Once a Year Club Has Its Own Investigation—The Committee's Report.

The Once a Year Club held its annual gathering at Delmonico's, New York, on the evening of February 19. The attendance was unusually large and the speaking was unusually good. The menu was one of Delmonico's best.

The impromptu farce of the Investigation of the Trumpet Life Insurance Company was cleverly performed. President Blow made an ideal witness, and deftly parried the inquisitoral thrusts of Chief Inquisitor Huse. Signor Spaghetti, the administration bootblack of the Trumpet Life insurance company, who likewise was the actuary of the company and in charge of the supply department, kept the auditors in a roar when Mr. Huse drew from him how much was spent yearly for lead pencils, toothpicks, soap and hen's eggs. The members of the investigating committee showed by the gravity of their countenances that they were trying hard to understand what it was all about, especially when Inquisitor Huse ostentatiously pretended to consult them. Mr. Huse was as irrepressible as he was ingenious and amusing. The following report was adopted before the investigation began:

UNAUTHORIZED REPORT OF THE NEW YORK ONCE-IN-SO-OFTEN INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

To the Honorable the Members of the Once a Year Club—Your committee, appointed to create amazement and scandal, and by innuendo and insinuation besmirch the reputation of the officers and members of this club, for the purpose of inspiring company managements with confidence in the stability and great usefulness of the insurance press, and causing—if such a thing were possible—the removal and exile of the officers as a fitting reward for building up and guarding the sacred trust funds of this club, thereby giving other needy members a chance, beg leave to report that they have, to the best of their ability and without incriminating themselves, had their duties attended to, and recommend the following as furthering a continuance of the evils complained of:

1. *Mutualization—Members' Right to Vote Defined.*—That every member of the Once a Year Club shall be entitled to one vote by proxy, or any other old way, as may be recommended as satisfactory to the officers, provided, however, that all proxies be cast by the nominating committee appointed by the president.

2. *Qualification for Office.*—That no member of the club shall be eligible as an officer unless he be wholly ignorant of the duties and requirements of the office, except he be vouched for by the New York *World* or the New York *Journal*. Membership in this club, however, shall not be an absolute essential nor shall there be an age limit.

3. *Nepotism.*—That the officers of the club be required to create enough additional offices to properly provide for all their

relations, and that the titles of such offices be either sufficiently imposing to avoid any criticism of the aggregate amount paid to any one family, or that such relations be compelled to change their names and be incompetent to perform the duties assigned them.

4. Syndicate Participations.—That the officers shall not be permitted to engage any of the funds of this club already expended, or any protested checks received in payment of dues, in syndicate or bond or stock underwritings for their own profit, unless as a matter of philanthropy or they can do so without being found out. That all stock on hand, or possible to obtain, be immediately disposed of.

5. Accounts and Disbursements.—That all disbursements of the club be chargeable to bar expenses, and that no printing and advertising of vouchers or itemized statements of such expenditures be permitted, and in order that the labors of future committees may be expedited, the officers be prohibited from keeping any books or record of their official transactions.

6. Bylaws, Rebating, Twisting, Penalty.—That all bylaws, rules and regulations, now in force or which may hereafter be adopted, defining the duties of officers be and are hereby repealed; that the most stringent regulations prohibiting rebating and twisting be maintained, but that all referees or penalties therefor be abolished.

7. Cost to Be Confined to Loading.—That the cost of the club be strictly confined to the annual loading of the membership, and that no estimate of future results be furnished when in that condition.

8. Yellow Dog Fund.—That the yellow dog fund of this club be withdrawn from exhibition, and that the dog now on hand be applied to the purchase of an unexpurgated edition of "Poems of the New Times," and that five copies be presented to each member, if they can be persuaded to accept them; provided, however, that the acceptance of such copies may be deferred for ten, fifteen or twenty years at the option of each member.

9. Annual Apportionment and Accounting.—That every member shall participate in an annual apportionment, provided he shall be present and shall have paid his campaign contribution; provided, however, that no annual accounting shall be demanded of the officers.

10. Standard Policy.—That there shall be but one standard policy for members of this club, under the conditions of which every member shall be privileged to accept all advertising and bonuses offered, either on the quarterly, semi-annual or annual payment plan, and if not offered, incur all necessary hazard to obtain the same without unduly increasing the mortality rate.

11. Non-Forfeiture Law.—That there shall be no lapse, cancellation or surrender of an advertisement, subscription or bonus by reason of any change in management or hysterical agitation for false economy not due to, nor caused by, or beyond the control of the members of this club, and that all contracts for advertising, subscription or bonus shall be non-forfeitable, and that any such contract can be changed, increased or abrogated only with the consent of both parties or their assigns.

12. Select and Ultimate Valuation.—That in order to encourage the new and younger companies, advertising rates shall be calculated by the proposed system of select and ultimate valuation, but any other rate may be established in the event of there being the least possible chance of obtaining an advertisement or annual statement; this provision, however, shall not apply to court journals transacting business on the preliminary term plan, liens in reserve or board contract; nor shall any member be prohibited from "dating back" not more than three months any delayed issue, or combining all such delayed numbers in one issue without increase of advertising rates.

13. Creating Public Sentiment.—That no member shall charge more than $1 a line for reading notices, unless he thinks it worth more and can get it without publicity.

14. Insurance Journals, Legislation.—That the officers of the club, at this most propitious time, encourage by all means in their power the creation of more insurance journals, and that all negotiations as to legislation be conducted on the mutual plan prior to the introduction of bills calculated to benefit the business, but that no bill or enactment shall be opposed which is proposed with a view of relieving the members of this club of the labor or necessity of conducting their own business; provided, however, that no restriction or limitation as to size or circulation of insurance journals now published shall be permitted while the strenuous demand for more advertising space continues.

15. Restrictions as to Salary of Officers.—That, in the opinion of the committee, the officers of the club would consider it a greater compliment to their inefficiency if permitted to fix their own salaries, and no restrictions therefore are recommended as a check on their efforts to secure more than their services are worth.

16. Restrictions as to New Business.—That the members of this club be restricted in the acceptance of new business from insolvent companies, unless such new business is paid for in advance; nor shall any notice of impairment of any advertiser be given to the public until all advertising bills incurred shall have been paid in full.

17. Expenditures—Restrictions of; Gain and Loss Exhibit.—That the officers—to promote needless disclosures and suppressing all sense of personal responsibility—be prohibited from expending any more of the funds of this club for copies of Loisette's "Stimulative Memory" and Eldridge's "I Will Pay," and that any such books now in their possession be exchanged for a second hand copy of Schofield's "The Unconscious Mind," which shall be attached to the annual financial statement as a gain and loss exhibit.

18. Publicity.—That the utmost publicity be given to the transactions and methods of the business of this club, and that, in furtherance of such full and complete publicity, a detailed statement of all its transactions except as herein restricted be published in full for the benefit of the public in Phelps' Universal Club Book.

Your committee are not unmindful of the great services rendered in bringing the business into general disrepute and in suppressing all facts which might result in any credit to individuals or managements, and in acknowledgment have voted themselves a gold watch and chain, the payment of its attorneys and consulting actuary being deferred until additional appropriation is made, they having been given assurances by the committee that no suits for restitution shall be instituted unless this report is disapproved and its recommendations adopted.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

P. S.—Copyright to be applied for 1907. All right of translation into English and other foreign languages reserved to the Official Printer of the committee. To be published in ten volumes with flashlight exhibits. Sold to insurance departments by subscription only, with code signals printed on Japanese vellum.

The evening was enjoyable, but would have been far more so had it not been for the general depression caused by the death of John A. McCall. Eulogies on that good man and lamented friend were pronounced by George D. Eldridge, Dr. W. A. Fricke, Dr. Israel C. Pierson and others, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the members of the Once a Year Club, representing the insurance newspapers of the United States, do hereby place upon record an expression of their love and admiration for Mr. John A. McCall, notice of whose death has been received by them with feelings of the deepest sorrow. He was a martyr to his duty as he saw it, a great and successful factor in the insurance world, a genial gentleman in his social relations, while his domestic life was as pure as it was beautiful. His death is a loss to the community at large and is viewed by this organization with profound regret.

Resolved, That the chair appoint a committee of five to attend the funeral of the honored deceased.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be suitably engrossed with the signatures of members and sent to the family of the deceased with the assurance of their sincere sympathy.

Annual Meeting of the Life Underwriters' Association of New York—Protest Against the Armstrong Bill Reducing Commissions.

Two hundred members of the Life Underwriters' Association of New York, with their guests, sat at the annual banquet of the association at the Hotel Savoy, New York, on Wednesday night. President Pell presided, and among the guests were President Peabody and Vice President McClintock, of the Mutual Life; President Morton and Vice President Tarbell, of the Equitable Life; President Munn and Vice President Cochran, of the United States Life; President Ide, of the Home Life, and Charles W. Scovel, president of the National Association of Life Underwriters.

The speakers representing the agents were J. Carlton Ward, the retiring president of the association; Charles J. Edwards and William C. Johnson. They all denounced the bill introduced by the Armstrong Committee reducing agency commissions. Mr.

(*Continued on page* 168.)

Life Insurance Business in New Hampshire in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna	77	$143,357	$67,403	$75,331
Columbian National	275	591,460	21,557	11,000
Connecticut General	168	196,586	50,041	9,868
Connecticut Mutual	63	94,968	41,066	27,070
Equitable	178	330,081	100,053	50,543
Fidelity Mutual	41	40,514	2,710	1,000
John Hancock	155	250,000	11,180	3,768
Manhattan	5	5,850	4,209	2,500
Massachusetts Mutual	147	197,077	129,134	143,859
Metropolitan	1,857	1,162,674	162,089	31,994
Mutual Benefit	106	146,690	39,120	17,127
Mutual Life	472	546,942	345,660	254,407
National Life	555	689,203	208,803	32,690
New England Mutual	13	18,125	5,035	175
New York Life	421	643,497	198,199	80,413
Northwestern Mutual	113	228,700	103,853	22,977
Penn Mutual	16	60,000	37,867	1,000
Phœnix Mutual	70	74,410	29,950	24,026
Provident Life and Trust	41	85,110	14,717	1,000
Provident Savings	9	29,669	12,095	14,500
Prudential	449	440,056	64,499	15,306
Security Mutual	6	8,566	3,023	------
State Mutual	81	107,901	35,164	44,797
State Security	63	28,550	3,380	2,000
Travelers	102	134,206	38,614	16,910
Union Mutual Life	98	95,382	55,443	43,380
United States Life	12	20,173	2,174	1,050
Totals, 1905	5,693	$6,419,747	$1,787,037	$928,290
" 1904	5,994	6,462,095	2,039,913	665,962
" 1903	5,174	6,007,700	1,861,831	801,796
" 1902	4,827	5,981,689	1,467,639	920,043
" 1901	4,800	6,046,562	1,317,312	651,477
" 1900	7,449	6,449,726	1,160,586	621,465
" 1899	3,686	4,790,290	1,067,478	609,006
" 1898	2,964	3,867,335	956,310	381,879
" 1897	2,746	3,695,668	923,009	352,470
" 1896	2,326	3,327,652	865,353	377,843
" 1895	2,543	3,713,292	968,851	438,454

Industrial business in 1905: Metropolitan, policies issued number 11,682; amount, $2,405,057. Prudential, number 2,798; amount, $370,268. Columbian National, number 4,221; amount, $555,500.

Fire Insurance Business in Maine in 1905.

(Specially Prepared for the Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies of Other States.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$10,067,339	$168,074	$64,488
Agricultural, Watertown	967,300	13,985	3,538
Alliance, London	321,056	3,834	1,102
American, Boston	771,662	12,619	6,461
American, Newark	653,761	9,872	5,306
American Fire, Philadelphia	1,375,987	19,595	16,670
American Central, St. Louis	1,610,920	29,797	18,835
Assurance Co. of America, N. Y.	382,600	5,545	2,854
Boston, Boston	1,772,870	26,568	15,915
Caledonian American, New York	165,000	2,601	1,063
Capital Fire, Concord	1,895,700	27,193	16,941
City of New York, New York	53,750	790	------
Colonial Assurance, New York	100,871	1,927	------
Commerce, Albany	279,022	3,737	460
Commercial Union, New York	106,198	1,553	72
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	3,355,100	55,359	33,443
Continental, New York	3,586,580	59,734	30,846
Delaware, Philadelphia	267,211	7,100	13,305
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	878,963	16,036	9,537
Equitable F. and M., Providence	477,915	6,951	1,656
Federal, Jersey City	409,761	5,581	2,447
Fire Association of Philadelphia	3,805,920	59,238	31,929
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	2,728,356	34,692	23,330
Firemen's, Newark	1,027,785	12,470	2,176
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	412,425	5,469	7,672
German Alliance, New York	239,550	3,734	1,495
German American, New York	4,878,304	72,176	42,680
Germania Fire, New York	794,710	11,357	3,622
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	203,400	2,850	4,249
Granite State, Portsmouth	6,190,989	102,082	57,484
Hanover Fire, New York	1,263,977	21,182	125,703
Hartford Fire, Hartford	7,964,890	117,805	69,315
Home, New York	8,565,941	105,394	72,443
Home Fire & Marine, San Francisco	709,324	10,357	3,963
Indemnity, New York	105,237	1,685	151
Insurance Company North America	8,780,014	153,099	82,276
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	715,028	12,485	6,044
National Fire, Hartford	5,080,368	65,451	23,661
National Union, Pittsburgh	253,000	3,348	747
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	3,025,550	48,650	35,989
Niagara Fire, New York	2,186,875	43,193	18,753
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	110,100	759	17
North German Fire, New York	298,691	5,282	1,208
Orient, Hartford	905,967	11,462	4,963
Pelican, New York	70,650	940	440
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	859,767	14,264	5,286
Phenix, Brooklyn	3,033,641	44,998	22,222
Phœnix, Hartford	5,191,315	81,595	30,713
Providence Washington, Providence	2,676,265	34,966	11,295
Queen, New York	1,537,920	23,818	18,434
Reliance, Philadelphia	90,113	1,356	------
Rochester German, Rochester	427,847	7,216	6,432
Security, New Haven	671,589	8,802	1,038
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	3,362,008	48,282	24,099
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	926,138	14,828	8,179
Traders, Chicago	1,094,715	18,423	7,305
Union, Philadelphia	893,888	12,188	4,426
United Firemens, Philadelphia	1,082,814	18,249	8,564
United States Fire, New York	489,341	8,761	5,267
Westchester Fire, New York	928,434	15,040	5,758
Williamsburgh City, New York	778,581	10,867	12,601
Totals	$103,860,994	$1,747,291	$923,766
Mutuals of Other States.			
Holyoke, Holyoke	$1,473,492	$19,297	$6,543
Middlesex, Middlesex	110,600	1,501	242
Providence, Providence	373,200	4,517	3,813
Quincy, Quincy	1,076,997	17,016	4,759
Traders and Mechanics, Lowell	1,263,712	19,960	13,254
Totals	$4,298,001	$62,293	$28,613
Companies of Foreign Countries.			
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$351,052	$6,017	$3,855
Atlas, London	706,401	12,821	9,667
British America, Toronto	818,143	14,391	9,289
Caledonian, Edinburgh	952,630	16,651	15,399
Commercial Union, London	2,243,588	35,721	33,095
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	1,910,635	41,500	25,159
Law Union and Crown, London	189,648	1,752	353
Liverpool and London and Globe	5,917,919	84,530	40,125
London Assurance Corporation	1,469,743	22,410	12,517
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	1,666,175	24,816	14,619
North British and Mercantile, London	3,610,445	52,692	26,442
Northern, London	1,895,263	25,595	11,044
Norwich Union, Norwich	1,361,169	22,556	12,219
Palatine, London	475,339	6,227	4,388
Phœnix, London	861,426	15,784	7,773
Prussian National, Stettin	706,365	8,164	4,031
Royal, Liverpool	5,561,174	84,558	32,685
Royal Exchange, London	699,860	14,479	9,809
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	1,063,444	17,972	17,191
State Fire, Liverpool	30,265	459	163
Sun, London	1,500,998	27,163	19,743
Union, London	575,765	4,557	3,201
Western, Toronto	2,435,497	26,423	23,514
Totals	$37,002,944	$567,248	$336,296
Grand Totals, 1905	$145,161,939	$2,736,834	$1,288,676
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$145,975,285	$2,295,795	$1,356,813
1903	143,140,955	2,143,459	1,420,325
1902	137,586,324	2,023,443	1,128,960
1901	138,281,591	1,840,633	1,294,851
1900	134,199,002	1,774,653	973,660
1899	129,261,277	1,808,248	1,072,972
1898	118,982,120	1,649,352	893,477
1897	113,883,425	1,608,355	592,799
1896	110,520,986	1,591,240	814,355
1895	102,211,024	1,576,457	847,917
1894	98,490,989	1,534,278	1,048,296
1893	103,875,200	1,473,319	932,637
1892	101,063,423	1,381,601	917,002
1891	92,841,159	1,248,815	785,822
1890	92,836,769	1,260,714	726,781
1880 to 1889, inclusive	737,034,993	9,672,136	6,212,859

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 60.1. The percentage in 1905 was 54.2.

Fire Insurance Business in New Hampshire in 1905.

(From a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Cash Mutuals of New Hampshire.			
Concord, Concord	$1,231,693.57	$20,418.65	$8,696.44
Grange, Concord	2,084,700.00	20,386.52	18,561.99
Manufactur's and Merchants, Conco'd	2,286,615.90	38,756.42	20,949.67
Totals	$5,603,009.47	$79,561.59	$48,208.10

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Stock Companies of New Hampshire.			
Capital Fire, Concord	$4,958,671.00	$74,325.80	$42,585.09
Eastern	87,250.00	1,257.97	363.62
Fire Underwriters, Manchester	739,976.00	11,690.16	6,713.13
Granite State, Portsmouth	12,320,711.00	191,041.83	73,290.50
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	16,783,458.00	233,046.87	99,212.15
Portsmouth, Portsmouth	825,953.00	9,903.53	7,148.71
State Dwelling House, Concord	204,250.00	1,959.63	287.28
Totals	$35,920,269.00	$523,225.79	$229,600.48
Stock Companies of Other States.			
Ætna, Hartford	$6,138,577.00	$89,324.29	$50,937.65
Agricultural, Watertown	305,900.00	4,143.00	3,782.00
Alliance, Philadelphia	95,807.00	1,212.74	698.08
American Central, St. Louis	1,021,303.00	15,278.05	6,156.40
American, Boston	869,739.00	12,440.59	5,601.68
American, Newark	543,698.00	7,599.78	3,514.53
Assurance Co. of America, N. Y.	219,733.00	3,036.15	1,740.80
Boston, Boston	1,155,744.00	21,844.60	7,410.36
British American, New York	53,666.76	815.76	674.58
Colonial, Jersey City	46,108.00	588.06	------
Commercial Union, New York	34,150.00	624.22	208.39
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	632,340.00	9,932.27	5,959.01
Continental, New York	2,593,304.00	46,892.24	31,876.77
Delaware, Philadelphia	257,261.00	4,566.06	5,138.30
Equitable Fire and Marine, Providence	298,878.00	4,049.25	3,202.10
Federal, Jersey City	106,864.00	1,548.59	1,484.36
Fire Association, Philadelphia	1,663,601.00	25,154.07	19,822.21
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	1,831,023.33	18,777.23	16,615.85
Firemens, Newark	817,008.33	11,438.40	4,246.71
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	213,994.33	3,427.79	2,152.66
German Alliance, New York	103,415.00	1,533.94	1,358.53
German American, New York	2,030,332.00	25,191.04	12,576.14
Germania Fire, New York	443,795.00	6,433.67	3,286.19
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	273,563.00	3,742.04	3,453.83
Hanover Fire, New York	576,241.00	11,602.51	17,301.86
Hartford Fire, Hartford	3,509,510.00	44,268.28	13,816.53
Home, New York	7,094,396.00	59,100.18	45,069.63
Home F. and M., San Francisco	265,645.16	4,102.91	1,120.48
Indemnity Fire, New York	85,488.00	1,367.28	688.14
Insurance Co. of North America	5,975,695.00	97,725.23	55,365.91
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	869,339.00	12,157.28	4,763.08
National Fire, Hartford	3,640,782.00	37,615.89	21,566.38
National Union, Pittsburgh	97,250.00	1,602.20	------
Niagara Fire, New York	1,986,226.00	35,899.37	19,727.98
North German Fire, New York	76,052.00	1,456.18	1,518.07
Orient, Hartford	782,043.00	10,518.88	10,723.34
Pelican, New York	34,150.00	661.73	1,817.48
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	710.015.22	12,618.58	7,923.77
Phenix, Brooklyn	1,847,698.00	22,522.66	12,152.44
Phœnix, Hartford	2,159,330.00	32,026.00	19,850.86
Providence Washington, Providence	2,216,165.00	17,379.95	8,276.81
Queen, New York	995,157.00	15,150.98	7,766.49
Security, New Haven	376,595.00	4,547.78	2,353.19
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	2,435.960.00	29,996.64	13,144.83
Traders, Chicago	668,196.00	13,116.84	9,615.66
Union, Philadelphia	294,387.00	5,194.97	55.75
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	635,907.00	10,611.55	4,449.69
United States Fire, New York	349,284.00	5,534.13	850.62
Victoria Fire, New York	58,952.00	344.26	2,561.25
Westchester Fire, New York	689,628.00	12,211.35	8,708.59
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	818,507.00	12,598.93	6,860.96
Totals	$60,978,403.13	$831,566.37	$489,946.92
Mutual Companies of Other States.			
Citizens	$2,100.00	$37.50	------
Fitchburg, Fitchburg	1,110,124.00	15,090.74	$2,978.05
Merchants and Farmers, Worcester	489,350.00	7,072.09	938.83
Merrimack, Lowell	493,317.00	6,335.45	1,620.01
Providence, Providence	489,325.00	6,057.92	226.33
Quincy, Quincy	391,211.00	6,329.18	1,616.43
Traders and Mechanics, Lowell	1,055,773.00	15,483.15	4,731.05
Totals	$4,031,200.00	$56,406.03	$12,110.70
Companies of Other Countries.			
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$265,283.00	$4,600.46	$4,840.57
Atlas, London	555,266.00	9,313.30	7,789.13
British America, Toronto	514,070.00	10,455.04	10,665.31
Caledonian, Edinburgh	718,756.00	11,772.03	10,792.81
Commercial Union, London	1,083,307.00	16,978.07	13,425.62
Law Union and Crown, London	102,195.00	948.94	1,807.75
Liverpool and London and Globe	3,604,827.00	38,099.47	29,713.49
London Assurance Corporation	526,102.00	7,305.25	5,868.07
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	1,892,692.00	27,418.44	21,026.82
Moscow, Moscow	166,598.00	2,182.51	2,276.26
Munich, Munich	2,064,230.00	30,218.97	25,158.16
North British and Mercantile	1,383,504.00	17,794.65	13,043.08
Northern, London	964,388.00	13,091.76	14,759.84
Norwich Union, Norwich	951,495.00	13,609.26	14,797.68
Palatine, London	581,218.00	5,402.58	6,822.22
Phœnix, London	545,268.00	11,113.90	13,101.76
Rossia, St. Petersburg	435,711.50	5,027.14	1,613.45
Royal Exchange, London	534,988.00	9,045.65	5,314.20
Royal, Liverpool	4,227,870.81	52,325.36	38,207.94
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	383,166.00	4,521.24	3,800.97
Scottish Union and National	675,749.00	9,862.26	11,548.16
Skandia, Stockholm	557,675.20	6,034.74	5,850.72
State, Liverpool	30,609.00	534.49	1,581.48
Sun, London	549,584.00	10,301.80	9,303.38
Union, London	504,619.00	4,398.63	13,134.03
Western, Toronto	2,042,625.76	17,065.39	12,415.52
Totals	$25,861,797.27	$344,067.33	$298,658.42
Grand Totals, 1905	$132,394,679	$1,834,827	$1,078,525

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$121,451,100	$1,670,593	$730,760
1903	116,764,732	1,633,907	1,062,027
1902	115,041,146	1,653,890	882,062
1901	108,148,545	1,396,654	813,597
1900	94,305,608	1,177,072	746,360
1899	89,822,232	1,190,345	645,948
1898	81,202,253	1,043,401	551,187
1897	80,240,576	1,069,679	487,667
1896	112,052,011	956,920	556,059
1895	97,554,506	968,178	257,474
1894	90,434,532	940,054	493,909
1893	91,295,913	913,842	750,670
1892	93,346,675	892,543	502,187
1891	91,825,443	844,259	591,304
1880 to 1890, inclusive	695,587,859	7,242,125	3,530,867

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 53.7. The percentage in 1905 was 58.7.

Fire Insurance Business in Ohio in 1905.

(From a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Superintendent.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Stock Companies of Ohio.			
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	$6,480,356	$120,146	$57,418
Columbia, Dayton	8,543,535	107,387	30,475
Cooper, Dayton	9,583,461	91,402	23,844
Eureka Fire and Marine, Cincinnati	6,405,392	71,142	15,324
Merch'nts and Manufac's, Cincinnati	2,746,422	33,269	9,567
National, Cincinnati	5,093,302	54,229	18,350
Security, Cincinnati	5,738,727	60,119	14,008
Teutonia Fire and Marine, Dayton	6,545,495	67,020	13,791
Toledo Fire and Marine, Toledo	505,400	8,879	4,523
Western Reserve, Cleveland	2,749,120	26,105	7,273
Totals	$54,391,210	$639,697	$194,575
Companies of Other States.			
Ætna, Hartford	$20,646,910	$265,167	$102,335
Agricultural, Watertown	7,206,500	76,383	27,879
Allemannia Fire, Pittsburgh	390,323	5,156	8
Alliance, Philadelphia	1,449,007	20,665	2,823
American, Boston	3,655,260	37,896	11,823
American, Newark	5,687,221	67,795	27,339
American, Philadelphia	9,886,716	101,249	45,957
American Central, St. Louis	4,448,553	58,249	23,939
Assurance Co. of Am., New York	2,537,795	26,308	13,068
British American, New York	516,364	5,708	2,577
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	1,866,070	24,511	9,364
Buffalo German, Buffalo	4,098,497	49,759	13,016
Calumet, Chicago	1,846,961	19,622	97
Camden Fire, Camden	3,249,093	42,179	4,069
Capital Fire, Concord	48,350	557	------
Citizens, St. Louis	6,049,920	86,109	39,296
City of New York, New York	180,760	2,236	------
Colonial, New York	3,083,861	49,409	16,979
Commerce, Albany	1,835,432	20,679	13,382
Commercial Union, New York	1,501,290	18,139	6,092
Commonwealth, New York	2,924,377	29,044	10,851
Concordia, Milwaukee	7,169,282	95,272	26,760
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	20,525,253	228,416	82,111
Continental, New York	17,166,130	245,321	101,728
County, Philadelphia	2,500,352	29,404	9,380
Delaware, Philadelphia	4,376,602	47,528	18,443
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	2,103,253	23,596	3,390
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	1,102,761	14,464	7,260
Eagle Fire, New York	1,799,513	23,731	1,426
Eastern Fire, Atlantic City	1,500,737	18,455	10,275
Equitable F. and M., Providence	4,033,398	46,586	24,381
Farmers and Merchants, Lincoln	2,154,680	31,136	10,002
Federal, Jersey City	2,560,505	26,694	10,036
Fire Association, Philadelphia	20,203,989	228,848	110,545
Firemen's, Newark	6,615,970	74,132	31,042
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	5,933,188	85,867	31,525
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	3,350,383	48,280	15,514
German, Freeport	19,527,645	196,879	61,919
German, Indianapolis	4,238,807	58,289	20,530
German Fire, Pittsburgh	4,808,488	59,746	14,668
German, Wheeling	3,588,914	56,732	20,679
German Alliance, New York	6,703,817	87,688	27,302
German American, New York	18,084,617	207,879	77,175
German American, Pittsburgh	249,539	3,189	430
German National, Chicago	4,934,999	62,268	15,939
Germania Fire, New York	18,061,101	208,551	50,161
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	2,275,886	28,497	15,445
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	7,556,723	70,271	32,377
Globe and Rutgers, New York	5,075,867	92,607	46,965
Hanover Fire, New York	6,353,677	82,370	34,471
Hartford Fire, Hartford	54,501,843	680,898	292,792
Home, New York	63,315,379	500,943	267,100
Home F. and M., San Francisco	2,586,618	32,990	13,685
Indemnity, New York	1,134,845	14,586	5,596
Insurance Co. of North America	20,687,052	267,852	117,430
Lumber, New York	422,430	7,013	1,106
Lumbermen's, Philadelphia	2,509,570	34,705	11,021

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Mechanics Fire, Philadelphia	3,009,572	40,742	10,789
Mechanics and Traders, New Orleans	860,874	7,225	2,811
Metropolitan, Chicago	1,122,538	17,799	7,369
Michigan Fire and Marine, Detroit	2,687,916	32,134	8,029
Michigan Commercial, Detroit	2,800,450	30,486	4,689
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	2,207,534	28,144	11,299
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	8,123,842	97,820	22,671
Nassau Fire, Brooklyn	3,213,980	34,256	13,121
National Fire, Hartford	21,883,873	241,451	85,935
National, Allegheny	2,220,519	28,431	10,068
National Lumber, Buffalo	9,500	181	------
National Union, Pittsburgh	4,734,881	60,277	17,577
Newark Fire, Newark	1,870,142	27,169	13,272
New Brunswick Fire, New Brunswick	367,837	4,423	429
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	5,198,683	55,693	21,686
New York Fire, New York	1,959,284	21,872	7,011
Niagara Fire, New York	7,704,507	104,631	41,552
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	1,658,061	8,209	1,177
North German Fire, New York	3,222,221	38,522	16,489
North River, New York	4,040,595	57,378	14,018
Northern, New York	828,645	10,394	1,750
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	14,278,673	120,508	33,440
Orient, Hartford	4,237,757	48,730	20,128
Pelican, New York	1,545,044	21,916	9,309
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	10,623,729	130,296	43,265
Phenix, Brooklyn	16,002,923	192,323	83,051
Phœnix, Hartford	19,644,903	213,288	91,023
Pittsburgh Fire, Pitsburgh	1,772,743	22,024	7,262
Providence-Washington, Providence	7,888,793	87,376	30,327
Queen, New York	14,173,983	187,520	86,014
Queen City, Sioux City	630,075	6,641	903
Reliance, Philadelphia	4,537,800	49,183	19,632
Rochester German, Rochester	6,450,317	91,143	35,178
Security, New Haven	5,149,689	51,802	15,231
Security, Baltimore	2,514,025	23,963	5,645
Shawnee, Topeka	1,268,029	15,410	1,415
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	5,875,618	73,992	16,722
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	13,426,460	155,800	57,984
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	8,843,431	86,846	42,646
Star Fire, Louisville	375,581	11,863	4,011
Stuyvesant, New York	2,514,240	30,950	8,409
Teutonia, New Orleans	1,804,289	26,930	9,004
Teutonia, Philadelphia	839,706	11,178	4,049
Traders, Chicago	4,780,322	58,357	24,622
Union, Buffalo	562,196	6,297	3,933
Union, Philadelphia	3,709,759	40,609	14,708
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	2,826,673	35,201	14,482
United States Fire, New York	2,469,623	30,257	12,774
Victoria Fire, New York	204,531	894	78
Westchester Fire, New York	7,002,030	89,662	22,106
Western, Pittsburgh	3,503,751	40,164	20,521
Williamsburgh City, New York	3,387,397	43,511	15,373
Totals	$685,390,618	$7,980,375	$3,056,489
Foreign Companies.			
Atlas, London	$8,026,239	$86,747	$28,231
British America, Toronto	5,503,689	72,770	37,754
Caledonian, Edinburgh	2,453,383	31,841	16,942
Commercial Union, London	12,100,631	133,584	51,206
Liverpool and London and Globe	20,016,180	227,538	100,791
London Assurance Corporation	4,589,932	66,275	25,354
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	7,105,906	77,108	27,942
North British and Mercant'e, London	16,148,705	178,945	66,188
Northern, London	9,648,869	123,687	57,099
Norwich Union, Norwich	8,259,932	102,200	51,573
Palatine, London	5,516,433	61,760	15,331
Phoenix, London	7,643,278	107,521	51,543
Rossia, St. Petersburgh	1,737,938	21,299	------
Royal, Liverpool	26,668,152	312,852	135,311
Royal Exchange, London	3,191,260	46,194	25,324
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	5,069,956	66,236	27,319
Skandia, Stockholm	3,502,633	51,323	15,845
Sun, London	10,154,654	101,609	40,179
Union, London	3,717,131	28,582	4,685
Western, Toronto	10,587,231	115,054	53,906
Totals	$171,642,132	$2,013,127	$832,524
Grand Totals, 1905	$911,423,960	$10,633,199	$4,083,588
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$841,387,766	$10,156,257	$4,877,080
1903	814,728,020	9,740,776	5,396,523
1902	816,489,625	9,424,661	5,121,496
1901	897,723,575	9,779,300	6,072,916
1900	777,907,302	7,951,534	5,039,699
1899	718,428,503	7,174,898	5,766,413
1898	675,430,664	7,036,634	4,240,146
1897	647,525,369	7,138,512	3,655,551
1896	582,712,821	6,829,891	3,057,461
1895	606,622,243	7,319,964	4,836,014
1894	564,925,911	6,749,338	4,063,632
1893	598,137,779	7,001,801	4,108,990
1892	593,372,645	6,784,237	4,903,114
1891	594,639,011	6,392,011	4,373,743
1880 to 1890, inclusive	4,562,898,639	50,300,557	28,831,149

The business done by mutual companies in Ohio is not included in these totals. The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years included in the above table is 57.5. The percentage in 1905 was 38.4.

Mutual companies wrote in Ohio in 1905 $133,612,140, with premiums of $1,621,588 and losses paid of $691,987.

(*Continued from page* 165.)

Pell said that "the life insurance companies have been the victims of political grafters who have preyed upon trust funds." He added that he had faith in the people to punish grafters wherever they caught them, and that the Life Underwriters had no apologies to make for any of the wrongdoers under the old régime.

"At the hands of the press we ask only a square deal," he continued. With reference to the Armstrong Committee's recommendations, Mr. Pell said: "We hope that we are not going to be legislated out of existence without a hearing. In this city we have many automatic devices, but it has remained for the legislative committee to devise an automatic insurance company. Why not also invent an automatic missionary and send phonographic records of the gospel of peace out to the heathen in far-off lands; why not have automatic lawyers and automatic doctors and even an automatic legislature to pass our laws?"

Mr. Edwards said: "May I be permitted to hazard the conclusion that if this proposed legislation is enacted, whereby the so called 'agency expense' of securing business under the 'select and ultimate method' and the renewal commission on further business are practically eliminated, that after 1906 not one single outside company will be operating in New York State. Furthermore, the New York State companies will practically withdraw from every other State, and the conclusion is obvious. Companies chartered in other States will only be able to do business in other States, where a living wage can be paid in return for honest services." Mr. Edwards declared that the life insurance agents who had created the companies by producing the business had not been consulted by the Armstrong Committee, and expressed his ultimate regret as follows:

"It is sad, most sad, that the Armstrong Committee and the most able counsel which they had retained should have been limited in advice on these more technical matters of life insurance, and the relations borne to the practical uplifting side of it, which has here resulted in a phase of legislation which will tend to assassinate our livelihood."

Mr. William C. Johnson spoke feelingly of James W. Alexander and the late John A. McCall, whom he described as that "whole souled, courageous leader, who, we hope, has gone to a more considerate judgment of a just God," and he proposed a toast, "To do honor to those whose work is ended," which was drunk by the assemblage in silence.

SPEECH OF PRESIDENT MORTON.

President Paul Morton, of the Equitable Life, said in part:

I do not know of any other calling in life where agents are given large advances for the purpose of buying business, and I do not believe in it so far as the insurance business is concerned. There is no work in which a man's general character is better reflected by his business than that of life underwriter. Bad business suggests tricky managers and unreliable solicitors.

If we are to give prizes hereafter (the Legislature will undoubtedly say we cannot do so, but there are always prizes to be gained in every well ordered business—not necessarily scarf-pins or loving cups, but promotions for meritorious work)—I say, if we are to give prizes hereafter to agents, let them be not for the volume of business which is produced, but for the character, persistency and the quality of the business. Let each agent understand that he is not only to write life insurance but that he is to sit up nights with it and live with it, and that as he succeeds in making himself felt as a man among men in the community where he lives, so will he make headway and be rewarded by his home office.

The speed craze between the large companies as to which can be the biggest is over. From now on the race will be to the swiftest to get and show the best results. In order to get the best results a company must have the best agents. It will not be the amount of business written but the conservatism, the economy and the wisdom shown in the administration of the insurance business that we will all be measured by. This alone will go a long way toward the discouragement of men of doubtful character, and still more doubtful methods.

Under the compensation proposed by the New York Legislature the agent will from necessity be obliged to retain all of

his commissions, and the public will not undertake to divide his profits with him by asking for a rebate. This will also aid in bringing about a better representation.

The improvement of the agency force, however, is not altogether a company affair. Bad agents should not be tolerated by the Life Underwriters' Association and other good agents. All of you should do your part toward driving the dishonest agent out of the profession. I am not worrying any about the agent who is lazy and will not work; the force of circumstances will either make him change his tactics or retire from the field. Every manager knows the men on his staff who are undesirable. Much depends on their action in this matter.

TARBELL'S DEFENSE OF THE AGENTS.

After telling some personal experiences as an agent and with agents, after defending the profession and giving the agent credit for making the life insurance business what it is today, Mr. Tarbell said:

The present is indeed a trying time for the life insurance agent, yet again how well he has played his part. The courage with which he has stood by his post, the loyalty that he has shown to his company during the troublous times of the last year, the fight that he has put up for his policyholders in advocating that which he believed to be for their best interests, the zeal that he has shown in urging them to keep their policies and thereby avoid the only loss that they would be likely to sustain—all these things will never be forgotten.

Just what the future will be for the life insurance agent cannot be told. While most of the recommendations of the Armstrong Committee are beyond a doubt in the best interests of life insurance, some of them, if enacted into laws, will materially affect the life insurance agent, and, in fact, make it exceedingly difficult for him to pursue his calling.

You can also co-operate to great advantage with your companies in the efforts that they are making to drive out of the business the twin evils of rebating and twisting. We will not permit a man who wishes to make his living out of commissions that he makes by twisting policies from other companies to remain with the Equitable. Just now there is an epidemic of twisting, and I think life underwriters' associations can do much in the best interests of policyholders by stamping this pernicious practice with their disapproval.

The influence of the work of the legislative investigating committee will be felt, not only in life insurance but in other corporations, for generations to come. Policyholders' interests will be more carefully conserved; graft will be eliminated; the responsibility of officer and director will be better understood, and their fidelity more thoroughly appreciated. Honesty and efficiency will be the requisites demanded, and, while it may be found that the committee has gone too far in some of its recommendations, on the whole great good cannot but ultimately result to life insurance the world over.

Vice President McClintock, of the Mutual Life, talked of the evils of rebating. He said: "An agent who does not rebate may hold up his head as he walks abroad, while the rebater is sooner or later driven to become an Ishmael and work among strangers. Every straight agent hates a known rebater. The strongest movement ever made against this curse of the business is now in full progress and on behalf of the executives of all your companies I beg of you, I entreat of you, that those of you who have not recognized the absolute evil of this practice may hereafter shun it as a pestilence, and that all of you may take every opportunity to aid us by doing what you can to bring to the light, with all necessary proofs, every case of the kind which may come within your knowledge."

President Scovel, of the National Association and, President Ide, of the Home Life, also made speeches. Letters were read from Grover Cleveland and Vice President Kingsley, of the New York Life, who were unable to attend. President Peabody, of the Mutual Life, was expected to speak, but gracefully begged off for this time.

THE BUSINESS MEETING.

The business meeting of the association was held on Tuesday, when the following officers were elected for the year ensuing: T. Reid Pell, president; Charles Wake, first vice president; William C. Johnson, second vice president; Seth W. Whiteley, third vice president; Albert G. Shepard, secretary, and H. G. Millar, treasurer.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted in reference to Albany legislation:

Whereas, The Insurance Investigating Committee, in its report to the State Legislature, has made a recommendation regarding the compensation to be paid to life insurance agents, which, if enacted into law, will vitally affect the legitimate interests and inflict permanent financial injury to all life insurance agents alike, practically legislating thousands of honest and able men out of a livelihood and their profession out of existence; and

Whereas, The committee do not call upon any agent for testimony concerning facts and data regarding agency work, the functions of the general agent, the experience and capital necessary for the proper transaction of an agency and the average financial results secured to the great body of general agents thereby; and

Whereas, We do not believe that it is the intention of our legislators to take action as drastic as that proposed, with the consequent injustice, without according to the innocent parties affected the privilege of at least appearing and stating facts relative thereto concerning certain highly important phases of the business not hitherto presented; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Life Underwriters' Association of New York, comprising the managers, general agents and the prominent solicitors of practically every life insurance company operating in New York, do appoint a committee of five to appear before the proper committee of the Legislature—for the purpose of submitting facts bearing upon this subject of such vital importance to the agency body.

Statement of Insurance Superintendent Hendricks.

Insurance Superintendent Francis Hendricks, of New York, issued a statement the early part of the week from Syracuse, in reply to various criticisms on the administration of the department in connection with life insurance examinations. After alluding to the large amount of clerical work performed by the department he said:

Outside of this routine work, the primary duty of the department is and has been a general supervision, by examination and otherwise, for the purpose of compelling compliance with the statutes regulating the subject of insurance, and the preservation of assets, reserve and trust funds in such proportion to liabilities as would insure the full discharge of all obligations to policyholders, whether of life or fire insurance. The statutes of the State in the case of life and fire insurance companies very largely regulate the proportion of these trust and reserve funds with reference to securing the safety to policyholders, and it is and has been the duty of this department to so watch these funds and the amount and actual value of assets carried by the companies as to insure ample resources for the payment of all policies and to guard against insolvency.

In my judgment this duty of securing performance of such obligations to policyholders and of guarding against insolvency of companies doing insurance business is the important duty contemplated by the statutes of the State, and by the theory of insurance supervision exercised in other States and countries as well as this. The fundamental idea of insurance legislation and supervision in this and other States has been to require and preserve sufficient assets and reserve and trust funds in proportion to outstanding policies to guarantee the safe and full payment of all liabilities to policyholders.

During my term of office there has been no insolvency or default resulting in loss to the policyholders, except in the case of one comparatively small fire insurance company, where there was a loss to policyholders of some 25 per cent. of the unearned premiums, and during the recent scandals no well informed person has doubted the entire solvency of the companies most concerned to meet all of their liabilities to policyholders.

Beyond the limits mentioned, I do not believe that it has been the theory or expectation that this department would or could exercise a daily watch over the acts of officers and directors with reference to compelling the exercise of ordinary business ability and honesty in the management of the details of the business committed to their care. While perhaps the Superintendent of Insurance by indirect methods might influence salaries and the methods of investing funds, I know of no direct provision of law authorizing him to do this, so long as the company complies with the statutory requirements and does not impair its

ability to meet the demands of policyholders. A careful examination of the statutes creating and regulating this department will, I believe, make it quite clear that it was not intended to be an overseer over or administrator of the daily business management of these companies.

It has been the theory of the management of corporations that those directly interested in them would insist upon the selection of directors and officers who were assumed to possess at least ordinary business sagacity and uprightness, and that in the first instance the public department should not be charged with the responsibility of supplying deficiencies in these respects. Many of the companies under the supervision of this department are stock companies whose stockholders are solely interested in and entitled to any surplus beyond what may be necessary to meet the demands of the policyholders. Such stockholders are vested with the power and charged with the duty of selecting directors and officers who will manage their property honestly and economically, and even in the case of mutual companies those directly interested have large powers outside of this department of protecting their own interests in the election of officers and in compelling an accountability by them for their acts. * *

I doubt if it would be wise to invest any State official with the power and responsibility of overseeing and administering all of the details of the business management of insurance companies, as in certain quarters it is now being claimed he should do. Some of the recommendations of the Armstrong Committee and many of the suggestions being made now elsewhere, if carried out, would make him in effect a managing director of all the insurance companies in the State. In the first place, I do not believe that this would be a wise policy. But, in the second place, if it is deemed to be wise it must be assumed that there must be an entire reorganization of the insurance department, giving the superintendent increased power and an adequate supply of force and money to do this. We all know how many months the Armstrong Committee, with a large force of help and large supplies of money, has taken to investigate the simply larger business matters of practically three insurance companies.

I am informed that the expense for chartered accountants alone in investigating one of these companies under the supervision of one of its own committees has been nearly $180,000. During the last six years there has been received by the Insurance Department, to meet the expenses of investigation and examination of all companies, the sum of $221,055, and of which amount $136,560 was available for the expenses of examining life insurance companies. While it is a matter of mere estimate, I am sure that it would require an appropriation of from $300,000 to $400,000 a year for a department to do the things which it is now said should have been done by my administration upon an appropriation which for several years has averaged only $40,000 a year.

INCORPORATED 1865.

GERMAN INSURANCE CO.

OF FREEPORT, ILL.

The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$5,546,127.97
Cash Capital,	200,000.00
Liabilities, including reinsurance,	3,617,361.34
NET SURPLUS,	1,728,766.63

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

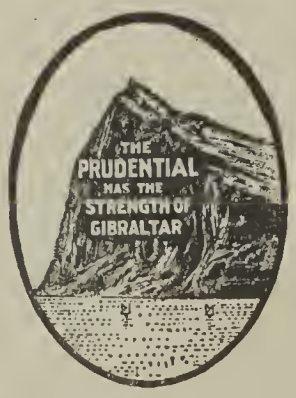
YOUNG MEN MAKE MONEY

There are opportunities to represent a big, sound, up-to-date Life Insurance Company in a profitable manner.

Prudential representatives make money. They have most varied forms of policies and advantageous contracts, with liberal commissions.

The attention of young men, particularly young men starting in business, is especially sought.

Write for full information regarding these unusual opportunities.



THE PRUDENTIAL
INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey.

JOHN F. DRYDEN, President Home Office, Newark, N. J.

Royal Exchange Assurance

OF LONDON

UNITED STATES BRANCH, 92 WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK.

Uberto C. Crosby, General Manager.
Richard D. Harvey, Assistant General Manager.

Pacific Coast Department, Dickson & Thieme, General Agents, San Francisco, California.

Southwestern Department, Trezevant & Cochran, General Agents, Dallas, Texas.

Southern Department, Edwin G. Seibels, General Agent, Columbia, South Carolina.

Statement of Condition, December 31, 1905.

ASSETS.

United States Government Bonds	$103,000.00
Municipal Bonds	688,396.25
Railroad and other Stocks and Bonds	1,035,510.00
Cash in Bank	114,273.07
Interest Due	15,481.59
Premiums in course of Collection	246,669.08
All others	5,860.30
Total Assets	**$2,209,190.29**

LIABILITIES.

Losses Unpaid	$90,901.00
Re-Insurance Reserve	1,010,422.39
All other Demands	105,362.31
Total Liabilities	**$1,206,685.70**
Net Surplus to Policyholders	**1,002,504.59**

National Life Insurance Company

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Financial Condition January, 1906.

ASSETS.

First Mortgage Loans—Real Estate (Ground Value, $4,245,554; Improvements, $1,700,250; Total, $5,945,804)		$1,859,578.50
Bond and Stocks (Market Value, December 31, 1905)		3,001,475.00
Real Estate (Market Value, December 31, 1905)		421,900.25
Cash in Office and in Banks		284,699.01
Loans on Approved Collateral		28,820.00
Loans to Policyholders, Policies deposited as Collateral (Secured by Reserve, $400,000.)		232,339.38
Premiums Notes on Policies in Force (Secured by Reserve, $66,000.)		20,204.50
Net Deferred Premiums and Premiums in Transit (Reserve Charged in Liabilities.)		203,310.68
Interest and Rents due and accrued		33,468.17
Reinsurance due from other Companies		5,000.00
Ledger Balances and Bills Receivable (Secured)		1,704.97
Total Admitted Assets		$6,092,500.46

LIABILITIES.

Net Policy Reserve		$4,667,765.51
Death Losses in Process of Adjustment		48,574.73
Present Value of Amounts not yet due on Instalment Policies.		38,793.46
Premiums Paid in Advance		45,658.68
All other Liabilities		4,175.01
Surplus Apportioned to Policyholders	$183,429.21	
Excess Security to Policyholders	1,104,103.86	
		$1,287,533.07
Total Liabilities		$6,092,500.46

THIS COMPANY has paid Policyholders since organization, plus present assets, $15,743,017, which sum is $556,824 MORE than the Policyholders have paid the Company during the same period.

RECORD OF 1905.

Amount of Insurance in Force December 31, 1905	$43,336,600.78
Gain in Surplus	83,100.27
Gain in Assets	845,636.98
Total Paid Policyholders and Beneficiaries in 1905	498,665.55

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 12 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Milwaukee.

ASSETS, $151,663,477.29

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fonrth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1905 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $105.83 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1905:

395 per day in number of Claims Paid.
6,972 per day in number of Policies issued.
$1,502,484 per day in New Insurance Written.
$123,788.29 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.
$77,275.94 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks.	$79,629,477.18
Bonds and Mortgages..	38,062,610.75
Real Estate.....	17,495,905.30
Cash	4,183,912.16
Demand Loans on Collateral	3,747,285.50
Loans to Policyholders.	3,703,554.50
Prem. deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,826,755.63
Accrued Int., Rents, etc.	1,013,976.27
Total	$151,663,477.29

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves.....	$132,705,296.00
All other Liabilities.....	2,776,602.33
Capital and Surplus....	16,181,578.96
Total	$151,663,477.29

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security..... $318,264,084.12

Number of Policies in Force, 8,596,705.

Amount of Outstanding Insurance.....$1,596.509,769.00

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice President.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di.
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di.
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

GERMANIA

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

NEW YORK.
ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital.....	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus.....	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE
Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

[FIRE]
German American
Insurance Company
New York

CAPITAL
$1,500,000
NET SURPLUS
6,442,674
ASSETS
14,052,520

How's Your Backbone? Can You Stand Alone?

Agents who can answer "strong" and "yes" to the above questions, and who want to be advanced more than they want advances, can secure splendid contracts with liberal renewal commission guarantees from the

Security Trust and Life Insurance Co.

BROADWAY and 26th STREET, NEW YORK

Mr. Thomas Bradley, President
Mr. Geo. B. Luper, 2d Vice-President and General Manager

The Preferred Accident Insurance Co.
OF NEW YORK.

Accident Policies. Health Policies.

Large Benefits, Low Rates, Best Commissions.

January 1, 1904.

Assets,	$1,152,330
Surplus,	439,609

KIMBALL C. ATWOOD, Sec., 290 Broadway, NEW YORK.

SAFETY FUND INSURANCE.

NIAGARA

Fire Insurance Company
OF NEW YORK.

OFFICE:
135 & 137 BROADWAY.

CHARTERED 1866.

Hartford Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

Up to date in business methods—in contracts—in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.

$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.

Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.

INVESTIGATE.

North British & Mercantile

INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

Established 1809.

OFFICE:

76 WILLIAM STREET,

New York City.

Royal INSURANCE COMPANY

(FIRE)

OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

Statement of United States Branch,

JANUARY 1, 1904.

Assets,	held in the U. S. for the special protection of its American Policyholders.	$8,520,383.40
Liabilities,	. . . .	5,204,870.83
Net Surplus,	January 1st, 1904,	$3,315,512.57

AGENCIES IN ALL THE PRINCIPAL CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

"SAFE AS A NATIONAL BANK NOTE."

The Inter-State Life

ASSURANCE COMPANY,

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

CHARLES A. SUDLOW, President. F. P. DAVENPORT, Secretary

EASTERN DEPARTMENT: 621 Walnut Street, PHILADELPHIA.

H. E. ROBERTS, Second Vice-President.

HANOVER

Agencies
In all the Principal Places
In the United States.

Fire Insurance Company
OF NEW YORK.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1904	$2,617,755.75
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,406,159.17
Joint Stock Capital	500,000.00

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY

OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

NEW YORK OFFICE:

68 WILLIAM STREET.

For a DEFINITE PROMISE to PAY, well defined, no experiment and taking no chances that technical legal definitions of what constitutes an accident will be used to defeat claims, BUY YOUR INSURANCE in and SELL the policies of

"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.

For particulars address The Central Accident Ins. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Mutual Benefit

LIFE INSURANCE CO.

NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

ASSETS (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1905,	$93,237,790.27
LIABILITIES,	85,918,227.30
SURPLUS,	7,319,562.97

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

Liverpool & London & Globe Ins. Co.,

ESTABLISHED, 1836. ENTERED THE UNITED STATES, 1848.

NEW YORK OFFICE:
WILLIAM & PINE STREETS.

NEW ENGLAND, NEW YORK, PENNSYLVANIA, OHIO, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, TENNESSEE, ARKANSAS, MARYLAND, DELAWARE, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

H. W. EATON, Resident Manager.
GEO. W. HOYT, Deputy Manager.
JOHN J. MARTIN, Agency Superintendent.

CHICAGO OFFICE:
203—205 LA SALLE STREET

ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN, IOWA, WISCONSIN, MINNESOTA, MISSOURI, COLORADO, DAKOTA, KANSAS, NEBRASKA, MONTANA, UTAH, WYOMING AND NEW MEXICO. INDIAN AND OKLAHOMA TERRITORIES.

W. S. WARREN, Resident Secretary.
GEO. H. MOORE, J. V. THOMAS, Assistant Secretaries.

NEW ORLEANS OFFICE:
Corner CARONDELET AND GRAVIER STREETS.

LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, ALABAMA, GEORGIA, FLORIDA, TEXAS.

CLARENCE F. LOW, Resident Secretary.
J. G. PEPPER, Assistant Secretary.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:
422 CALIFORNIA STREET.

CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, OREGON, WASHINGTON, IDAHO, ARIZONA

CHARLES D. HAVEN, Resident Manager.
C. MASON KINNE, Assistant Secretary.

WHAT is the use of saying
"The best company,"
or "The strongest company,"
or "The largest company"?
They all say these things.

WE SIMPLY SAY . . .

THE PENN MUTUAL LIFE Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.
Organized 1847.

THAT TELLS THE WHOLE STORY.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencies
WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

Caledonian Ins. Co.,

FOUNDED 1805. *of Scotland.*

"The Oldest Scottish Insurance Office."

UNITED STATES HEAD OFFICE:
Caledonian Building, 50 and 52 Pine St., New York City

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,883,210.00
Liabilities	1,215,950.00
Net Surplus Over All Liabilities	$667,260.00

CHARLES H. POST, U. S. Mgr.
R. C. CHRISTOPHER, Ass't U. S. Mgr.

THE STANDARD LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY OF DETROIT, MICH.

INCORPORATED 1884.

All forms of Accident, Sickness and Liability Insurance.

D. M. FERRY, PRESIDENT,
E. A. LEONARD, SECRETARY.
W. C. MAYBURY, MNG. DIRECTOR.

Cash Capital, $250,000.00

C. A. TIMEWELL, Mgr. Metropolitan Dept., 92 William St., N. Y. City.

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

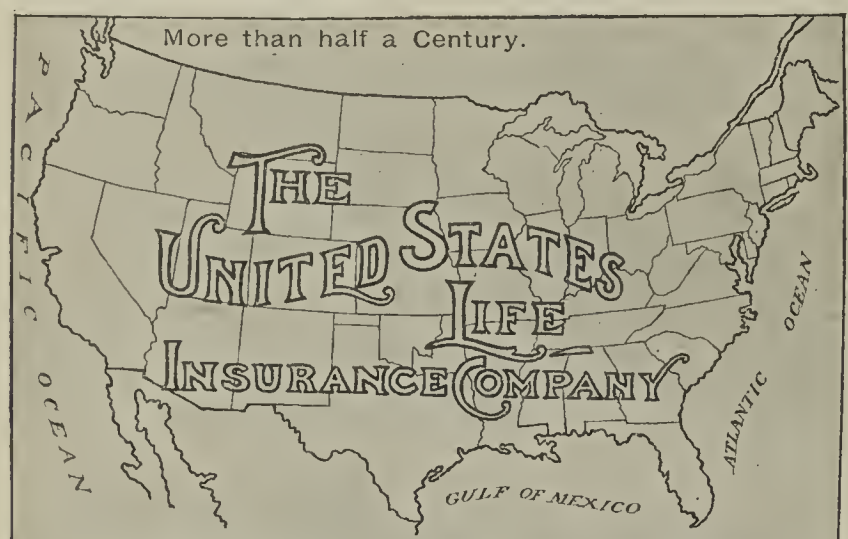
Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references

WESTERN MANAGER

Care of WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William St., New York City

Applications will be considered strictly confidential.



JOHN P. MUNN, M.D.
President

FINANCE COMMITTTEE

JAMES R. PLUM
Leather

CLARENCE H. KELSEY
Pres. Title Guar. and Trust Co.

WILLIAM H. PORTER
Pres. Chemical Nat'l Bank

Good men, whether experienced in life insurance or not, may make

DIRECT CONTRACTS

with this Company, for a limited territory if desired, and secure for themselves, in addition to first year's commission, a renewal interest insuring an income for the future. Address the Company at its HOME OFFICE, No. 277 Broadway, New York City.

London Assurance Corporation,

CHARTERED A. D. 1720.

SURPLUS IN U. S. JAN. 1, 1905, $831,256.62

CHAS. LYMAN CASE, Manager.

61 Pine Street, NEW YORK.

C. H. Bunker, President. Franklin H. Head, Vice-President.
A. A. Smith, Secretary, H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.

Continental Casualty Company

POLICIES ARE PROTECTED by more than ONE MILLION DOLLARS ASSETS.

Capital Stock, $300,000.00

Accident and Health Insurance

General Offices, Chicago.

OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS paid in claims to 175,000 of our POLICYHOLDERS.

GOOD CONTRACTS IN GOOD TERRITORY TO GOOD MEN

Producers, address H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr. 134 Monroe Street, Chicago.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41
(Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.

Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

SUN

Insurance Office of London

FOUNDED 1710.

United States Branch: 54 Pine St., New York.

Western Department: 171 La Salle St., Chicago.
Pacific Department: 215 Sansome St., San Francisco.

The Empire State Surety Co.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK
391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*
WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, JR., . *President*
EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

INCORPORATED 1799.

Providence Washington Insurance Company,

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

National Life Insurance Co.

MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Established in 1850. Operating in 44 States.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, President.
JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President.
JAMES B. ESTEE, 2d Vice-President.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary.
H. M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
A. B. BISBEE, Medical Director.
C. E. MOULTON, Actuary.
F. A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1906, and gained during the past decade:

Assets	$34,519,093.04	Gain, 184 per cent.
Surplus	3,821,752.51	Gain, 165 per cent.
Insurance	145,480,904.00	Gain, 109 per cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.
A. H. GSELLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

Massachusetts Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED 1851

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

ASSETS January 1, 1906,	$40,082,953.35
LIABILITIES,	36,716,579.77
SURPLUS,	3,366,373.58

Definite Paid-up and Cash Surrender Values Written in Every Policy.

JOHN A. HALL, Pres. HENRY M. PHILLIPS, Vice-Pres.
WM. W. MCCLENCH, Sec'd Vice-Pres. WM. H. SARGEANT, Sec.

New York Office: 610 Empire Building, 71 Broadway.

NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Of the U. S. of A.

Home Office
NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ALBERT M. JOHNSON, President
ROBERT E. SACKETT, Vice-President
ROBERT D. LAY, Secretary
CHAS. B. SHEDD, Treasurer

Admitted assets, $6,092,500.46
Ins. in force - 43,336,600.78
Full paid capital, 1,000,000.00

Policy Contracts Liberal and Up to Date.

Exceptional Inducements offered to wideawake Agents.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO.,

INCORPORATED 1833.

FIRE AND MARINE. Head Office: TORONTO, CANADA.

UNITED STATES BRANCH.

JANUARY 1, 1906

Assets	$1,542,949.10
Liabilities	1,046,546.17
Net Surplus	$496,402.93

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

THE AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

OFFICE COMPANY'S BUILDING. **308 and 310 Walnut St., Philadelphia.**

CASH CAPITAL	$500,000.00
Reserve for Reinsurance and all other claims	2,116,118.40
Surplus over all Liabilities	222,677.40

TOTAL ASSETS, JANUARY 1, 1905, $2,838,795.80.

JOHN H. PACKARD, JR., President.
WAITE BLIVEN, Secretary.
WM. F. WILLIAMS, Treas. and Asst. Sec'y.
EDWARD MANEUVRE, Asst. Sec'y.
LOUIS S. AMONSON, Secretary of the Agency Department.

DIRECTORS:

John H. Packard, Jr.
Joseph E. Gillingham.
Charles S. Whelen.
Edward F. Beale.
John S. Gerhard.
Edward Lowber Welsh.
Archibald R. Montgomery.
Thomas K. Ober, Jr.
Francis E. Bond.

THE

John Hancock

MUTUAL
Life Insurance Company of Boston, Mass.

Insurance in Force, December 31, 1904, - - - Over $356,000,000

ROLAND O. LAMB, Vice-Pres.; ARNOLD A. RAND, 2d Vice-Pres.; ROBERT K. EATON, Sup't of Agencies; WALTON L. CROCKER, Secretary; WM. S. SMITH, Actuary; GEORGE L. STIMMEL, General Agent Metropolitan District.

St. Paul Building, New York.

Head Office for the United States:

57 and 59 William Street,

NEW YORK.

A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Manager.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846–1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President.
HENRY S. ROBINSON, Vice-President.

HERBERT H. WHITE, Secretary.
DANIEL H. WELLS, Actuary.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410.42	$11,290,773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President.
EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer.
BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary.
T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.

LIMITED,

OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

Provident Life and Trust Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. **THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY** invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$43,891,738.40
Liabilities,	36,675,050.24
Gross Surplus,	7,216,688.16

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.
Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1906. No. 10.

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THE practical unanimity of the life insurance interests in opposition to the program of the Armstrong Committee in the New York Legislature has had the effect of moderating the assertiveness of the committee, and it has not only abandoned the determination attributed to it of "jamming" its bills through but it has conceded more hearings to the remonstrants than the one previously allowed. The chairman is reported as saying that "the committee has no desire to prevent the fullest discussion of the reform bills planned in connection with the report of the investigation, and realizes that it is not infallible, and it will hear everybody who has anything of importance to say regarding the bills." This is only a reasonable decision, and it gives promise that the Legislature will not be hurried by the importunities of the committee, and will be permitted to consider with discretion and deliberateness its propositions to revolutionize the practice of life insurance in the State of New York. At the hearings which began yesterday the most matured, the wisest thought in American life insurance was present to advise the committee upon the effects of the bills if they become laws. These advisers are not the persons who were accused of maladministration, but are either their successors, who were put in office as representatives of reform, or the tried officers, actuaries and agents who have been building up the companies with an eye single to their duties as such. They may fairly be presumed therefore to have no purpose but the best interests of the life insurance business. The Legislature must in reason recognize both their conscientiousness and their superior judgment, as against the equal good faith but lesser proficiency of the members of the committee of investigation, and in doing so it will keep life insurance legislation within the bounds of safety.

WHILE the Armstrong Committee was planning to make easy the transfer of the control of a mutual life insurance company in New York, a great Connecticut company was putting into effect the permission granted by the Legislature of that State at its last session to strengthen it against sudden changes of management. The Armstrong bill regulating the election of trustees of mutual companies provides first for a complete change of the trustees on November 15 next, and afterward for the retirement of one-half of the trustees each year, so that in two years thenceforth the control of a company may be completely revolutionized. This amends the present custom in New York of changing but a quarter or a fifth of the board membership annually. The Connecticut Mutual Life insurance company has hitherto elected its entire board annually. The late President Jacob L. Greene, by reason of his wisdom as a great life insurance manager, foresaw in the existence of such a condition the danger to a company's stability from suddenly improvised attack by adventurers, and caused the introduction of legislation putting directors in four classes, one class to be chosen each year. President Taylor has just been explaining the purpose of this change as the "safeguarding the assets of the company from raiders." He sums it up, in other words, as follows: "To correct the possibility of the combination of unscrupulous people to capture us and to avoid the temptation, which is a constantly increasing one, to promoters and exploiters and frenzied financiers to take possession of this company and loot its assets." The ease with which policyholders at a distance may be led by manufactured clamor and adroit persuasion to part with their voting powers to speculators has lately been exemplified. These forays upon company assets may be planned secretly and uncovered unexpectedly at an annual meeting. The policy of the law should be to make the process of transfer of control deliberate and within the full knowledge of all the policyholders. It need not be less sure because it is gradual. The Legislature will err if it introduces rapid transit into the control of mutual life insurance companies.

"Frenzied Finance" Lawson was in Des Moines twice during the past month, on one occasion visiting the Legislature in session, being accorded a place of honor by the side of the Speaker of the House, and given the privilege of making an address. He did not impress the members of the House to any great extent, and his effort to secure the services of Governor Cummins as chairman of the proxy committee which he wishes to act for the policyholders of the New York companies was futile. It is stated by him that he holds enough proxies to control the election of officers of these companies. Mr. Lawson's visits to Des Moines were without special incident. He was treated courteously and with simple kindness. He came here in a special car, with several companions, among whom was the editor of a certain magazine which has been exploiting his writings for mercenary purposes.—*Des Moines National Economist.*

FOLLOWING his failure to "impress" the Iowa legislators by his grandstand display of gasconade and reviling Lawson came to New York and announced the calling of a meeting of 150,000 policyholders of the Mutual and New York Life in Madison Square Garden at his own expense, to take possession of the two companies. Nothing further has been heard of this tremendous affair, but last week there came another torrent of words, in the form of an address to the Armstrong Committee, in which Lawson, after affirming that the policyholders of the Mutual and New York Life have been plundered of $250,000,000 by the trustees and officers, magnanimously offers to support the committee's bills if the Legislature will order quick elections for new trustees, whereby his proxies, which he says he has turned over to the so called Governors' Committee and are numerous enough to control, can be used. Of course Lawson is a humbug and does not possess the power of which he boasts, and the Armstrong Committee has taken no notice of him, but what is to be thought of the motives of the bands of reformers which appear to be willing to go into an alli-

ance with the man? A committee is known by the company it keeps. The Fish movement against the Mutual Life, aided by Lawson, is discredited at the start. The "Governors' Committee" is a somewhat nebulous body, a part of which was reported originally to be composed of Governor Cummins, of Iowa, and Senator La Follette, both of whom decline to be connected with it. If Governor Johnson, of Minnesota, is really a member of the committee he seems to be lonesome as to governors. But this committee, according to Lawson, is working with him to overthrow the present administrations of the life insurance companies. It would be interesting to hear from Mr. Fish and Governor Johnson, if they really think as their ally does in the following paragraph in the latest issue of his magazine:

I am firmly of the opinion that within the next five years each of the "big three" companies will have become insolvent, and I now take the full responsibility of advising all to cancel their policies in the "big three" companies, taking what they can now get, unless on or before the next annual election of the New York and Mutual companies there is a complete turnover of the entire management, not to pliable dummies of the System, but to real live representatives of the policyholders.

Facts and Opinions.

The **return of Andrew Hamilton** from abroad was the principal life insurance sensation of the early part of the week. Mr. Hamilton said that he had come back, although still in poor health, to face any charges that might be made against him in connection with his relations with life insurance companies. He went at once to his home at Albany, and was cordially received by his personal friends. It was reported that the Legislature was in cold shivers, but later it was given out that Mr. Hamilton is a loyal man, and will not betray those who have placed confidence in his word. Senator Armstrong and other committeemen deny that they want to investigate Mr. Hamilton. They care nothing about him. Restitution suits against him were started by the New York Life. In the Mutual Life insurance company the trustees adopted a resolution to investigate more closely the transactions of officers and employees receiving more than $2,000 salary each. These questions have reference principally to their relations with outside corporations for services. Joseph H. Choate has accepted a retainer as counsel of the Truesdale special committee. On Tuesday James Speyer, the banker, and Dudley Olcott, president of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank of Albany, resigned as trustees of the Mutual Life. It was announced from the District Attorney's office that James H. Hyde and Richard A. McCurdy had given pledges before their departure for Europe that they would return at any time they were required to do so by the District Attorney.

The thirty-second annual meeting of the **Boston Protective Department** took place Thursday morning in the assembly rooms of the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters with an unusually large attendance, due to the greater convenience of the meeting place as compared with the Protective headquarters, the former meeting place, which is situated some little distance from "the Street." As recommended in the annual report of the directors, it was voted to continue the department for another year at a maintenance expense not to exceed $80,000. also to abolish the issuance of the monthly reports, which, on account of unsettled losses, fail to tell the whole story of monthly outcome. Edward D. Blake and F. H. Stevens were re-elected president and vice president, respectively, for the third time, and Edward Spaulding, secretary-treasurer for a great many years, was also chosen again. Geoge P. Field, Frederic Hinkley and E. C. Brush having served as directors for six years, and their terms expiring by limitation, Walter B. Henderson, F. W. Porter and Augustus S. Lovett were chosen to fill the places of the retirants. From the annual report of Superintendent Samuel Abbott, Jr., it appears that in 1905 there were 2,320 alarms in Boston, of which 1,818 were for fires; of these 840 occurred in brick, stone and iron buildings, 782 in frame buildings and 196 outside; the number of fires to each 1,000 population was 4.12. Of these fires 1,342 were confined to the floor on which they originated, 1,561 to the building of origin, 47 extended to adjoining property, and 14 extended beyond adjoining property. The percentage of fires confined to building of origin was .86. Aggregate loss on buildings and contents was $2,143,031; insurance involved, $25,071,923; insurance loss, $2,006,865; divided as follows: Buildings, property loss, $967,943; insurance loss, $902,232; insurance involved, $16,763,906; percentage of uninsured loss, 6.79. Contents, property loss, $1,175,088; insurance loss, $1,104,633; insurance involved, $8,308,017; percentage of uninsured loss, 5.99. During the year 1905 there were 22 fires in sprinklered risks, where the sprinkler heads operated, with losses aggregating, as far as ascertained, $227,662. The major part of this loss was sustained in the Hoosac Tunnel dock fire of February 21, 1905, the building loss being $200,752; the contents loss is in litigation. There were 44 calls for defective sprinkler systems during the year; losses sustained, $3,589.

More organizations of **"life insurance policyholders' associations"** are announced. Most of these affairs are engineered by individuals for personal speculative motives. An association in Illinois is promoted by H. S. Vail, an actuary, and agents who are policyholders are barred. Dues are $1 per annum. In Washington this week the "Mutual Life Policyholders' Association" was organized, with an executive committee composed of one member from each State. The announced purpose of the organization is "to bring about reformation in the management of the Mutual Life insurance company." The committee so far as arranged is as follows:

Maryland, B. N. Baker, chairman, Baltimore, president Baltimore Trust and Guarantee Company; New York, Calvin Tompkins, New York city, president Newark Lime and Cement Manufacturing Company; Massachusetts, Albert A. Pope, Boston, president Pope Manufacturing Company; Connecticut, Albert E. Hammer, Branford, president Malleable Iron Fittings Company; Virginia, John Skelton Williams, Richmond, president Richmond Bank; Wisconsin, James G. Jenkins, Milwaukee, United States Circuit judge; Mississippi, John Sharp Williams, Yazoo City, member of Congress; Georgia, Col. W. S. Thomson, Atlanta, president Atlanta Title Guaranty Company; Michigan, William Livingston, Detroit, president Lake Carriers' Association and Dime Savings Bank; District of Columbia, Dr. Maurice Francis Egan, Washington, professor, Catholic University; Florida, Cromwell Gibbons, Jacksonville, attorney; South Carolina, E. W. Robertson, Columbia, president National Loan and Exchange Bank.

The committee appointed counsel to represent the association at the hearing at Albany this week. John De Witt and D. Cady Herrick are the counsel. It is understood that the association will act in conjunction with Stuyvesant Fish in his movement against the present administration of the Mutual Life.

Two recent fires in the West have caused much interest as to the **comparative desirability of steel and concrete tanks** from an underwriting standpoint. The companies in January sustained a 75 per cent. loss on grain in steel tanks at Clarksville, Tenn., while the destruction of the Peavey elevator at Duluth caused a very slight damage, if any, to the grain in the concrete tanks. Companies have been notified that there will be a claim for damage in the latter instance, but no amount has been given. The concrete apparently stood the test well, except that one of the tanks has developed a crack about 3 feet long and 2 inches wide near the top. The steel tanks of the Dunlop Milling Company at Clarksville, Tenn., however, developed the need for a non-combustible lining,

with an air space, for such receptacles. The flames from the frame mill were blown directly toward the tanks, and they became so heated that the grain inside caught fire. The department did not throw water on the tanks for fear the steel would crack, and the mill people allowed the tanks and grain to remain undisturbed for eight days after the fire. They then cut a hole in the side of one tank, and as soon as the air was admitted to the interior the mass inside burst into flames. The Kentucky and Tennessee Board reports that the tanks were of steel, with no woodwork, and were 50 feet away from the mill. Under ordinary conditions the loss would have been slight, but the flames were blown directly against the tanks. The board cautions companies against writing grain in tanks when the buildings are of frame and of large area, and are within 75 feet of the tanks.

The **Surplus Line Association,** organized in Chicago to write surplus line business in the Middle Western States, will have twenty members. The following are interested in this movement: Hartford Fire, New York Underwriters, German American, German Alliance, National of Hartford, Ætna, Liverpool and London and Globe, Royal, Springfield, Commercial Union, North British, Phœnix and Fireman's Fund. All are Union companies. Fred S. James, Western manager of the National of Hartford, who has long been interested in the plan of handling surplus business in the co-operative way, has been elected president, with J. W. C. Cofran, of the Hartford, vice president, and W. H. Sage, of the German American, secretary and treasurer. William Wood, formerly United States manager of the United Reinsurance Company and the Palatine, and later manager of the Anchor, has been appointed manager. The temporary office will be in the New York Life Building, Chicago. A special to the *Journal of Commerce* says:

The Surplus Line Association will be in no way a competitor of regularly licensed insurance companies, the local agents or the brokers controlling the risks. It will assist in carrying the line only when the eligible list of companies has been exhausted and the interests of the local agents will always be protected. It is understood that it will be able at the start to write a line of $100,000 on any one risk, and $200,000 in any one block. The association will seek to furnish additional sound protection to large insurers who have been forced to seek unlicensed foreign and other companies and associations whose responsibility in case of loss is sometimes hard to fix.

The **annual statement of the Mutual Life** insurance compan of New York, as of December 31, 1905, was given out on Thursday. The company in 1905 wrote $181,662,643 of new insurance, as against $229,532,430 in 1904, and its terminations from all causes were $141,327,354, as against $129,125,280 in 1904. The gain in insurance in force, therefore, was but $41,-937,808; there was a gain of $102,619,766 in 1904. Of the terminations, $82,116,481 were by lapses, this amount being practically four times the amount of terminations by death. The lapses the year before were $74,909,951; $23,759,386 of insurance went off the Mutual's books through the taking of surrender values last year, as against $16,896,941 similarly terminated the year before. In the company's income account for the year there are two interesting items. One is called "cash inadvertently charged to expense prior to 1905, $25,000, and the other "overpayments, ledger credits to individuals, $51,576.07." No explanation was forthcoming at the Mutual's offices of these two items, but it was gathered that they represented the adjustment of some personal accounts of officials who have left the service of the company. The premium income of the company for the year was $62,978,215, which was within a few thousand dollars of the premium income for the year before. The gross admitted assets of the company increased from $440,978,371, at the end of 1904, to $471,809,991, at the end of 1905.

A memorial to the late Henry R. Turner, adopted by the **New England Insurance Exchange** last Saturday, truthfully extols him as having been "a generous friend, a genial associate, a faithful husband, a devoted father and a trusted citizen. He was intelligent, faithful, persevering and absolutely true in all the relations which he bore with the insurance companies which he represented and with the members of this body, with whom he was for so many years associated. His contributions to the service and literature of insurance will pass down into history among the most valued of those bequeathed to this association by members who have finished their earthly work." The memorial also bears witness "to the rare courage with which he faced the exigencies of his later business life, and the pathetic fortitude with which he accepted the ordeal which terminated his earthly career." The appointment of a successor to Mr. Turner as general agent for New England of the City of New York Fire has not yet been announced, but may be expected ere long.

The **Underwriters' Laboratories** of the National Board at Chicago has engaged Mr. Dana Pierce as engineer in charge of electrical work. He begins his duties this month, spending a few days at the New York office of the laboratories, going to Pittsburgh to attend the annual conference between experts in the employ of insurance interests and those of the Westinghouse companies, and takes up his active duties at the executive offices and testing station of the laboratories in Chicago about the 15th. Dana Pierce graduated from Amherst College with the class of 1892, and since that time has devoted himself to physical laboratory practice and electrical engineering, taking a post-graduate course at Johns Hopkins and afterward doing a variety of work at Harvard and Cornell laboratories, conducting experiments in high tension electrical measurements at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and acting as instructor in laboratory work at Pratt Institute. It is the policy of President Eddy, of the laboratories, now that the new testing station has been completed and paid for, to devote the resources of the institution to securing in its service the highest grade of engineering talent obtainable, and Dana Pierce is considered by Secretary Merrill to be an important acquisition in this direction.

Arrangements have been perfected for the organization of the **Travelers Indemnity Company,** which secured a valuable charter from the Connecticut Legislature in 1903, and which is to be closely affiliated with the Travelers insurance company of Hartford. Under the franchise President Sylvester C. Dunham, Vice President John B. Lunger and Director Charles L. Spencer, of the Travelers insurance company, are named as commissioners to receive subscriptions to the capital stock of the Indemnity corporation. They announce that they will open books on March 17 at the office of the Travelers insurance company. It is not expected that a regular business will be begun immediately. It is learned from the insurance company that it has launched the Indemnity Company as a precautionary measure as to hostile legislation, etc. Its charter is broad and contains privileges for many classes of insurance which there is no present intention of writing.

And still they come, with Columbus, Ohio, as their birthplace—all life insurance companies, too. The **Columbus Mutual Life insurance company** is to be the name of the third arrival, now being organized on "unique lines" by C. W. Brandon, formerly manager of the Reliance Life there. The company will have a contingent fund, consisting of the first annual premium and 6 per cent. of subsequent ones, this to be used for expenses only, and a deposit fund made up of the

remainder of the premiums and revenue from the usual sources. Dividends will be declared annually or otherwise, according to the wish of the policyholder, and an accouuting will be made at his request. In case of death the beneficiary of an investment policy will secure the dividends earned and declared in addition to the face of the policy. A special mortuary savings dividend will be declared every five years. The powers and profits of stockholders are limited in several ways. The other Columbus life companies referred to are the Ohio State Life, chartered February 24 with $100,000 capital, to do a life and accident business, and the Midland Mutual Life, with $100,000 capital and $50,000 surplus, which has yet to receive its charter.

Mercantile rates are likely **to be revised in Chicago**, and if the members of the Chicago Board approve any change the mercantile schedule worked up in the past two years by Manager Glidden and a committee will probably be utilized. Its adoption has been deferred, first because of the necessity of a new classification for all mercantile risks, and then because of the impending change in the organization. Manager Glidden has sent to all the members a series of questions for answers, to determine the opinion of the street. These include:

Do you desire the rates on mercantile risks revised and published without being subject to the percentage charge? Do you think the rates on buildings should be increased or decreased? To what extent? Do you think the rates on stocks should be increased or decreased? To what extent?

The agitation for a reduction in preferred rates has brought out a demand from those who oppose it that at least it must be offset by an increase in rates on the classes which have been proven consistently unprofitable in Chicago.

A commission to **investigate the life insurance business of Canada** has been appointed by the Dominion Government, and has met and organized at Ottawa. The commissioners are Judge MacTavish, Ottawa, senior judge of the County of Carleton; J. W. Langmuir, managing director of the Toronto General Trusts Corporation, and A. L. Kent, of Kent & Turcotte, accountants, Montreal. The instructions given to the commissioners are as follows:

1. To inquire into the general subject of life insurance, and life insurance systems in Canada, and the operations of the various companies chartered by the Parliament of Canada, or by any province and licensed under the insurance act, transacting life insurance in Canada, including expenses of management, investment of funds and other allied questions.
2. To make like inquiry, so far as deemed necessary, into the operations of companies other than those chartered by the Dominion or a province, transacting in Canada the business of life insurance.
3. To inquire into the operation of the laws of the Parliament of Canada relating to and governing the business of life insurance, both as regards Canadian companies and companies other than Canadian, and to consider and report upon any amendments thereto that may be deemed necessary.

To do business on an "old line" basis the **Southern States Life insurance company** has been organized at Atlanta, Ga., with $100,000 capital and $50,000 surplus. According to the application for a charter the capital stock will be increased to $200,000 and the surplus to $100,000 later on. Local boards will be established in the different cities of the South with resident vice presidents in charge. The officers elected are: Wilmer L. Moore, president; P. C. Wadsworth, vice president and director of agencies; Frank Orme, secretary and treasurer; Miles M. Dawson, consulting actuary; Dr. W. S. Kendrick, medical director; Joseph H. Williams, cashier; E. L. Dupree, assistant secretary; C. R. Harper, assistant director of agencies: Jackson & Orme, counsel. The "Southern States Mutual Life" has been organized in West Virginia, and there are several new companies taking the name of the "Southern Life."

The petition by the Pacific Mutual Life in the San Francisco courts for permission to change its name to the **Pacific-Conservative** Life has met with a temporary setback by the filing of a protest by a policyholder against it. The burden of the protest was that the change is unnecessary, uneconomic, unwise and would tend to injure the interests of stockholders. On meeting such strong opposition the petitioner proposed to satisfy objectors by amending the new title, so that it should read Pacific Mutual Conservative Life insurance company. But on attempting to so amend the petitioners were met by objections that a petition cannot be amended as is a pleading where all parties have been brought into court, but that a new petition with new notice given would be necessary. The objection was in accordance with the views of the court, and the petition was dismissed without prejudice to its renewal.

At a special meeting of the members of the **Connecticut Mutual Life** insurance company the act of the last Legislature of Connecticut, amending the charter as to the election of directors, was accepted. Heretofore a full board has been elected at an annual meeting. The plan which was adopted puts the directors into four classes, three of the twelve being chosen each year. President Taylor explains the advantages of the amendment as safeguarding the assets of the company by protecting it from raiders. He sums up the objects of the amendment as follows: "To correct the possibility of the combination of unscrupulous people to capture us and to avoid the temptation, which is a constantly increasing one, to promoters and exploiters and frenzied financiers to take possession of this company and loot its assets."

Twenty years of activity were celebrated on Friday evening last by the **Pittsburgh Life Underwriters' Association** with a banquet at the Monongahela Club attended by ninety members. An address was made by President Charles W. Scovel, of the National Association, on "The Primal Duty." Others who spoke were: Professor W. C. Lyne, a charter member; ex-Senator George W. Delamater, Norman Woolridge, Edwin L. Porter, J. M. Dalbey, S. L. Fleishman and Leonard Fosdick. Officers and executive committee elected were: President, C. B. Knight; first vice president, W. M. Furey; second vice president, N. S. Woolridge; secretary, William M. Wood; treasurer, J. C. Biggert; executive committee, F. G. Brown, D. B. Bell, L. C. Robens, W. C. Baldwin and J. M. Dalbey.

The United States Supreme Court has refused to take cognizance of the case of the **Ætna Indemnity Company against the city of Haverhill, Mass.**, by denying the petition of that company for a writ of certiorari to the Circuit Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. Howard M. Penrose, the assistant secretary of the company, stated that the original suit was brought after his corporation had paid $35,000 on a bond for John A. Glines, at one time treasurer of the city of Haverhill. The company then brought suit, alleging that the surety was obtained upon misrepresentation, as the auditors had certified that Glines' accounts were correct at the time that the bond was issued, when, as it afterward appeared, they were involved at that time.

The Insurance Department of **Colorado**, which is engaged in litigation with the Western Union to have the laws relating to the **licensing of insurance solicitors** interpreted by the Supreme Court, claims that there is serious need for regulation. It finds that 1½ per cent. of the population of the State is engaged in the insurance business. Individual solicitors and brokers work without any licenses and force the licensed agents of companies to divide commissions with them, and every real estate office claims to represent a number of companies without having agents' licenses. The Commissioner

insists that he is trying to protect the legitimate company and agent who pay their fees and are duly authorized by the State to do business.

Salt Lake City, Utah, has stepped into the insurance limelight by the organization there on Wednesday of last week of the **Fire Insurance Underwriters' Association.** Officers elected were: James Rogers, president; H. B. Windsor, vice president; W. P. Lynn, secretary; Clarence E. Raybould, treasurer. The executive committee consists of the above named, with the exception of Treasurer Raybould, A. L. McDonald and T. H. Cartwright. The organizers claim the association will attempt to stop demoralizing practices and "wildcat" underwriting, to enforce sound practices, diminish fire hazards and incendiarism, and to secure equitable rates. Its membership is open to anyone doing a fire insurance business in the city.

Backed exclusively by Mississippi capital the **Lamar Mutual Life insurance company** has been organized at Jackson, Miss. Insurance aggregating nearly $1,000,000 is already pledged in writing and $100,000 capital stock subscribed for. Officers chosen are as follows: President, A. C. Jones, Jackson; vice presidents, John L. Hebron, Greenville; B. T. Kimbrough, Oxford; O. B. Quinn, McComb; General W. D. Cameron, Meridian; C. C. Kelly, Kosciusko; A. S. Hinton, Lumberton; H. E. Blakesley, Jackson; J. A. Bishop, Jackson; secretary, R. P. Moore, Jackson; treasurer, George A. Wilson, Lexington; counsel, Quinn & Robertson, Jackson; actuary, Samuel Barnet, Atlanta.

Born at Indianapolis, Ind., on Wednesday, the **Indianapolis Association of Casualty Underwriters** elected the following officers: President, H. C. Newcombe, Travelers; vice president, A. L. Willard, Standard; secretary, C. F. Kreis, Pacific Mutual; treasurer, L. P. Horton, United States Casualty. Delegates were appointed to attend the meeting to be called for the organization of a national association of casualty and surety agents by Robert Brennen, as follows: H. H. Lovell, general agent Casualty Company of America; George D. Winne, general agent American Registry Company, and Irving Williams, associate editor of *Rough Notes.*

For the recovery of fees alleged to have been illegally collected by them between 1873 and 1895, three living **ex-State auditors** and the estates of six who have died are to be sued by the State **of Indiana.** The money alleged to have been appropriated was from the taxes of foreign insurance companies. Those who held office during this period were: James A. Wildman, 1873-75; Ebenezer Henderson, 1875-79; Mahlon D. Manson, 1879-81; Edward H. Wolf, 1881-83; James H. Rice, 1883-87; Bruce Carr, 1887-91; J. O. Henderson, 1891-95; A. C. Daily, 1895-99. All are dead now except Daily, Wolf and J. O. Henderson.

The **Interstate insurance company of Texarkana,** Ark., with authorized capital of $200,000 and paid-up capital of $50,000, began business on Thursday. Gross R. Scruggs is president and E. K. Smith, cashier of the State National Bank of Texarkana, is secretary. Gross R. Scruggs & Co., Dallas, Tex., have a general agency contract to handle the underwriting department of the company. A. P. Hawkins, formerly special agent in Louisiana for the Austin Fire insurance company, will be special agent for Louisiana and Arkansas for Gross R. Scruggs & Co., with headquarters at Texarkana.

The **Standard Fire Insurance Tables** for 1906 show at a glance the financial condition and business of American and foreign fire insurance companies for the ten years ending with December 31, 1905. They also contain comparative rank tables of eighty companies with over $1,000,000 assets, underwriting profit and loss for ten years, underwriters' agencies and other information of value to fire underwriters throughout the United States. These tables are offered by the Standard Publishing Company, 93 Broad street, Boston, singly and in quantities.

To "Woman, the Inspiration of the Life Insurance Idea," tribute was paid by F. E. McMullen, of Rochester, second vice president of the National Association of Life Underwriters, at the third annual banquet of the **Life Underwriters' Association of Rochester** on February 22. President R. W. Huntington, Jr., of the Connecticut General Life; Rev. Dr. C. C. Albertson, of Rochester, and Pancoast Kidder, of the executive committee of the National Association, also spoke. President Mortimer R. Miller, of the association, was toastmaster.

The **Ætna Life** makes known by a circular the appointment of William J. Gardner, formerly manager of the Ætna's Western Department at San Francisco, as resident secretary of the accident and liability department, New York branch agency. Mr. Gardner is a well known expert in casualty insurance, possessing exceptional executive ability, and as resident secretary of the accident and liability department will be given full power and authority to quote rates, accept business, issue policies and adjust as well as settle all valid claims and losses.

A bill to discourage **"ambulance chasers,"** backed by the Boston Bar Association, is now before the Massachusetts Legislature. It prohibits the bringing of actions of tort by attorneys who have solicited or permitted to have solicited for them their engagement to push claims for personal injuries. When legal action is shown to have been improperly secured the guilty attorney is to be debarred from collecting his fee for services rendered. Accident insurance organizations should look with hearty favor on this measure.

On the application of three directors, E. S. Johnson, A. G. Mabee and George Merrill, of the **Tradesmen's Life of New York,** Judge Greenbaum, of the New York Supreme Court, has appointed Woolsey A. Shepard temporary receiver in voluntary dissolution proceedings. His bond was made $1,000. Richard Ely was appointed referee, and an order to show cause was made returnable on June 15 next. The Tradesmen's is an assessment company, formerly known as the Jewelers' and Tradesmen's Company.

Every dollar of the $100,000 capital stock of the newly organized **State Mutual Life insurance company of Kinston, N. C.,** has been "subscribed for," and $50,000 paid in. Application has been made for a charter, and the company will begin to write business in two months. The State Mutual Life will make a specialty of intermediate business, writing policies from $100 to $1,000, but will also write ordinary business. An office will be maintained in every town or city of 5,000 inhabitants or more in North Carolina.

The **Bankers Life of New York** has withdrawn from all save its own State. At a meeting of the stockholders on March 2 the faction headed by Henry P. Townsley and Eugene Van Schaick, representing the Knickerbocker Investment Company, secured control and the present officers will retire. The Bankers Life has about $23,000,000 of outstanding insurance on its books, but is impaired to the extent of $70,000. Messrs. Townsley and Van Schaick claim that the impairment will now be made good.

The retirement of the **South Atlantic Life of Richmond, Va.,** from business has been under discussion by its stockholders.

Plans of consolidation with other companies have been considered. Among the companies named as desirous of reinsuring the business of the South Atlantic are the Penn Mutual, Union Central, Metropolitan of New York, Greensboro Life of North Carolina and Life Insurance Company of Virginia.

Chartered several months ago at Lynchburg, Va., the **American National Life** has elected the following officers on formally organizing: President, W. A. Taylor; vice president and treasurer, B. F. Bopes; secretary, A. M. Campbell; Senator John W. Daniel, second vice president and general counsel; Fred Harper, associate counsel; C. Davega Cohen, third vice president and general manager; S. W. Davidson, of New York, actuary and assistant secretary.

A number of **important vacancies** exist in the Western special agency field. The American of Newark wants a man in Iowa, the Aachen and Munich for Minnesota and Wisconsin, the Armenia and Southern may need several field men, the Eagle has a vacancy in the West, the Milwaukee Mechanics in southern Illinois, and the National Union, Phenix and Royal in the mountain field, says our Chicago correspondent.

Marine business on the Pacific Coast was not profitable in 1905, many companies having losses higher than their entire premiums. The Fireman's Fund led in premiums, with $133,574, and losses of $104,895; the Swiss Marine Combined followed with $53,361, and losses of $41,400; the Austrian Phœnix with $35,446, and losses of $33,207, and the Insurance Company of North America with $33,661, and losses of $37,357.

As her husband **committed suicide** Mrs. Amanda Whitfield, who was beneficiary on a $5,000 Ætna Life accident policy carried by him, will receive only $500, as stipulated in the policy. The wife refused to accept the tender of $500 after her husband's death by his own hand at Kansas City in April, 1902, but the United States Court of Appeals this week upheld by its opinion the terms of the policy contract.

The **Detroit Conference** held its quarterly meeting at Detroit Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of last week. The Workmen's Casualty of Boston and the Michigan Home and Hospital Association were admitted to membership. Considerable attention was devoted to a schedule covering the hazards of factory employees, which recommends changes in benefits in the various classes.

The committee to prepare a program for the **semi-annual meeting of the Western Union** at Atlanta next month is made up of P. D. McGregor, Queen; Milton Dargan, Royal; I. S. Blackwelder, Niagara Fire; J. M. DeCamp, Liverpool and London and Globe; A. J. Harding, Springfield Fire and Marine; J. Montgomery Hare, Norwich Union, and C. W. Higley, Hanover Fire.

The **German American insurance company** has purchased a block of four buildings, Nos. 68-74 Maiden lane, New York, with a frontage of 112 feet, and Nos. 5-11 Liberty street, with a frontage of 85 feet, on which will be put up a fine building, partly for the company's own occupancy. The property is in the small triangle at the intersection of Maiden lane, Liberty and William streets.

A transfer of the New York metropolitan agency of the **American of Newark** from J. G. Hilliard, who has been in charge in New York since 1894, to William Reid was made this week. The company claims that it parts on the most friendly terms with its old agent. Mr. Reid has been connected with the German American the past thirteen years.

The **Commonwealth Life insurance company** of Baltimore, with a capital stock of $125,000, has been incorporated. The stock is divided into 12,500 shares, and the incorporators are J. Leiper Winslow, C. Herbert Thomas, William D. Allen, J. Herbert Whitehurst and Milton Dashiel. The company will do a general life insurance business.

The **Marine Underwriters' Association of the Pacific Coast** has elected William J. Dutton, of the Fireman's Fund, president; I. Gutte, vice president, and Edmund L. Woods, secretary. The present adjustment committee has been given up, and E. A. Kidman, formerly with Thames & Mersey, in London, has been appointed adjuster.

It has been decided to hold a meeting of the executive committee of the **National Association of Local Insurance Agents** in Chicago, March 20 and 21, at the Great Northern Hotel. Several matters of importance are to be brought up, one being the consideration of uniform practices by local boards all over the country.

The nominating committee of the **New York Fire Insurance Exchange** has reported the following ticket for officers to be elected at the forthcoming annual meeting of the organization: For president, C. F. Shallcross; vice president, Henry Evans; secretary-treasurer, George Jeremiah.

The indisposition of **Benjamin F. Stevens,** the venerable president of the New England Mutual Life, has taken a favorable turn, and he passed his eighty-second birthday last Tuesday quite comfortably, although, in the interests of caution, denying himself to callers.

The Missouri Insurance Superintendent on Thursday rendered his decision in the case of the **Columbian National Life** of Boston and allied companies. He holds that a life insurance company must do an insurance business and no other kind of business in that State.

The **Northwestern National Life** has combined its fields in California, Washington, Oregon and Idaho, and will have headquarters for those States in San Francisco, with W. W. Hutchinson, former special agent for northern California, in charge as manager.

The **Austin Fire of Texas,** having entered the States of New York and Illinois, and joined local boards of underwriters there, has withdrawn from the State of Arkansas. Its business has been taken over by the Southern National of Austin.

Among the **elegancies in T. W. Lawson's latest screed** is his allusion to us of the insurance press as the "ink squirters" of the System's "thugs and reputation dyers." The last word needs an explanatory footnote from Lawson.

Poor piggy is dead. Phœbe, **the educated porker of the Hippodrome** show, is no more. She died Friday evening last in Chicago. Phœbe was recently insured for $300 on the application of the Hippodrome management.

Certificates have been filed at Raleigh, N. C., reducing from $100,000 to $50,000 each the capital stock of the **Carolina Life** and the **North Carolina Fire,** both of High Point. They are new companies.

The directors of the **Star Fire insurance company of Louisville** have voted to increase the surplus $100,000. Forty thousand dollars is to be paid in cash within thirty days, and all inside of ninety days.

The charter of the **Fort Worth Life insurance company** has been approved by the Attorney General of Texas and filed

with the Insurance Department. The nominal capital stock is $500,000.

Rumors of the **absorption of the London Guarantee and Accident Company** by the London and Lancashire prevail in London, and the shares of the former are rising as a result.

The **New York Life** has given up its large offices on the second floor of the Mills Building in **San Francisco** and has taken smaller offices at Post and Grant avenues.

Admissions.—Phœnix Preferred Accident to New York; Southern of New Orleans to Michigan and Illinois; Jefferson Fire to Massachusetts; Glens Falls to North Dakota.

The **Glens Falls insurance company** has entered the State of North Dakota under the jurisdiction of the company's Western Department.

Manhattan and Bronx fire insurance premiums in 1905 were $6,578,657, as against $6,185,917 in 1904; $5,856,985 in 1903, and $3,870,811 in 1900.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

American Fire of Philadelphia and Spring Garden: W. N. Merrill, State agent for Iowa and Nebraska.

County Fire of Philadelphia: H. A. Wiley, special agent for New England.

Eagle Fire of New York: Loren H. Green, Jacksonville, Fla.

German American of New York: Arthur R. Porter, special agent on the Pacific Coast, transferred from Wisconsin.

Insurance Company of North America: Carlton E. Clutia, special agent for Kentucky and Tennessee.

Jefferson Fire of Philadelphia: H. G. Fairfield & Co., Boston.

Mechanics & Traders of New Orleans: Martin L. Cate & Co., Boston; transferred from Frank Gair Macomber.

National Surety of New York: D. C. Negley & Co., agents at Pittsburgh; John H. Robertson, general agent for burglary business at San Francisco.

New Hampshire Fire: A. L. Bliss, special agent eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

New York Underwriters Agency: Fred C. White, special agent for western New York State.

Phenix of Brooklyn: Z. M. Boyer, special agent for the Northwestern field, with headquarters at Portland, Ore.

Union of Philadelphia: Lewis & Frear, Brooklyn and Queens County.

United Firemen's of Philadelphia: Matthews & Hill, Atlanta, Ga.

United States Casualty: Keler & Carney, Boston, general agents liability department.

Westchester Fire: H. A. W. Hopper, special for Virginia, Missouri and North and South Carolina.

Mr. Robert S. Brannen, the Denver, Col., fire insurance manager, died from the effects of a stroke of apoplexy on Thursday night. He was stricken on Tuesday, and did not recover consciousness. Mr. Brannen was one of the most conspicuous fire underwriters in the United States. He had one of the largest local and general agencies in the West. He was practically the father of the National Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents, and was its first secretary. At the time of his death he was engaged in the formation of a similar organization among the surety men. Its first meeting was to have been held next month in Chicago, and a number of delegates have already been elected. It is not expected that Mr. Brannen's death will end the movement. He was a man of indomitable energy and will be very widely missed.

Mr. Robert L. Foreman, of Atlanta, recently manager of the Equitable Life for Georgia, has become a partner of Clarence Angier, the well known Southern life underwriter, and for twenty years State manager there for the Mutual Benefit Life of Newark. Mr. Foreman is president of the Life Underwriters' Association of Georgia, having been elected a few months ago. He has been with the Mutual Life and Equitable of New York for about seventeen years.

Mr. W. J. Greer has been appointed manager of the General Adjustment Bureau in New York. It is expected that Mr. Greer will assume his new position about April 15. He is now assistant manager of the Western Adjustment Bureau at Chicago, and was previously general adjuster of the Norwich Union, with headquarters in this city. He is very highly regarded as an adjuster.

Mr. Thomas Cooper, who has been in the insurance business in Chicago for twenty-five years, and for six years has been in the local office of the New Hampshire, has been appointed Cook County manager of the Royal Exchange, succeeding J. E. Hendry, who resigned to enter the general agency field.

Mr. J. L. Van Norman has resigned as special agent for the Northwestern National on the North Pacific Coast, to take the same field for the Germania Fire, with headquarters at Portland, taking effect March 1.

Manager W. Harold Pownall, for New Hampshire, of the industrial department of the Columbian National Life of Boston, was arrested in that city Thursday of last week, charged with the embezzlement of $1,400 of the company's money. The Title Guarantee and Bond Company is his surety.

Colonel George H. Hopkins, for many years vice president of the Standard Life and Accident insurance company of Detroit, Mich, died suddenly from apoplexy on Tuesday.

Mr. Frederick D. Cross, of Boston, has been appointed to represent the North River, Nassau, United States and Jefferson fire insurance companies in the New England field.

Messrs. John T. Kaler, A. S. Lovett and R. A. Boit were added to the membership of the brokers' committee of the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters last Thursday.

Mr. J. C. Bergstresser, editor of the *Insurance World* of Pittsburgh, sailed Friday last from New York for a trip in West Indian and South American waters.

Mr. Lucius McAdam, actuary of the Hartford Life for nine years past, has been appointed actuary of the United States Life and Annuity Company of Chicago.

Mr. R. A. O. Kerr, of Altoona, Pa., one of the best known fire underwriters in the State, died at his home there February 27, aged seventy-three years.

Mr. George D. Eldridge, Jr., son of George D. Eldridge, vice president of the Mutual Reserve Life, died March 2, aged thirty-five years.

President John M. Holcombe, of the Phoenix Mutual Life, has been elected a director of the National Surety Company of New York.

Mr. John Wilson Allen, a veteran Malden, Mass., life underwriter, died at his home there February 26, aged eighty-three years.

Mr. E. J. Sullivan, special agent of the Orient, was elected a member of the New England Insurance Exchange last Saturday.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Kentucky.

FRANKFORT, Ky., March 8.—By a unanimous vote the House has passed Senator George's bill No. 4, providing for an annual accounting by all life insurance companies. On the third anniversary of the policy an accounting must be made of surplus, and apportionment and distribution annually thereafter.

In the Senate Mr. Johnson's resolution to appoint two Senators and three Representatives as a special committee to revise the insurance laws and report to the next Legislature was adopted.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., March 6.—The Insurance Committee has an unusual record of dilatoriness in reporting upon matters which have been heard. Its docket includes forty-five matters, and the last bulletin, dated yesterday, shows that only two of them have been reported upon and that in only eleven cases have the hearings been closed. Three more were heard today, and one is assigned for March 8 and one for March 13. Doubtless the explanation is that the members have been busy on other committees and that they will take up these matters and rush them through as soon as they have opportunity. Today's hearings were on the bills (House 761 and 763) to regulate the expenses of life insurance companies and for standard forms of life insurance (House No. 760). Reginald Foster, counsel for the five Massachusetts companies, opposed the proposed changes, and Fred. S. Elwell, the petitioner, and Louis D. Brandeis, supported the bills.

BOSTON, Mass., March 8.—In the House this afternoon Representative McManus, of Natick, presented his own petition for a law to authorize credit insurance companies to do an employers' liability and accident insurance business. The petition, with accompanying bill, was referred to the Committee on Rules to see if the rules should be suspended in order to admit the petition.

Reginald Foster, representing all of the Massachusetts life insurance companies, opposed before the Insurance Committee this forenoon House Bill No. 418 and another bill, one of them providing that annual statements of the disburse-

ments shall be sent to every policyholder, and the other that a policyholder can surrender his policy after paying one premium and receive what he paid in, with interest.

New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., March 7.—The New Jersey Legislature has adjourned for the week with no insurance business done. The Judiciary Committee of the Senate this afternoon and evening gave a hearing on Senator Colby's resolution to investigate the Prudential and allied concerns. Mr. Colby's manager, George L. Record, of Jersey City, made a poor showing in urging an investigation. Ex-Governor John W. Griggs and R. V. Lindabury made strong speeches against the resolution, claiming there was no need and no demand for investigation.

The committee made no announcement, and Mr. Colby is said to have admitted he had no hope for investigation. It is well understood that the effort to get an investigation or to pretend to get one is a political movement against Senator John F. Dryden, whose re-election as United States Senator will come up next year.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 7.—Assemblyman Draper introduced a bill today amending Section 235 as to fraternal beneficiary societies, providing that the provisions of the section shall apply to any society organized under the laws of the State instead of any organized under the "provisions of this article."

ALBANY, N. Y., March 7.—The Senate Judiciary Committee gave a hearing this afternoon on the anti-compact bill of Senator Brackett, which was largely attended by representatives of the fire insurance interests. Among those present in opposition to the bill were E. H. A. Correa, of the Home; George H. Sheldon, of the Phœnix; W. R. Kramer, of the German American; W. H. Stevens, of the Agricultural; C. F. Shallcross, United States manager of the Royal; C. L. Caz, United States manager of the London Assurance; H. F. Atwood, of the Rochester German; Mr. West, of the Glens Falls; Mr. Perkins, of the North British, and John A. Garver, for the New York Board of Fire Underwriters. The principal arguments were made by Mr. Garver, Mr. Sheldon and Mr. Atwood. Nobody appeared for the bill.

The Assembly Insurance Committee gave a hearing in the evening on the A. E. Smith anti-compact bill, which is practically the same as Brackett's. Mr. Garver also spoke at this hearing, as did Mr. Correa, of the Home; Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Atwood and Mr. Hecox, of Binghamton. Senator Riordan made a stump speech for the bill, denouncing the fire insurance companies as plotters to stifle competition and coerce brokers.

Senator Riordan has reintroduced his defeated bill of last session to regulate the publication of printed or written reports and statements of the financial condition of life and fire insurance companies in the State of New York. The privilege is to be confined to persons duly licensed to publish the same, who must deposit $50,000 with the Superintendent of Insurance as a condition thereto. The act will not apply to daily papers or to magazines, weekly, tri-weekly or monthly publications that have been in business at least ten years.

[For the hearing of Friday on the Armstrong bills see report in another column.—ED.]

Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 5.—Representative Stewart, chairman of the Insurance Committee of the House, introduced sixteen bills concerning insurance, which were sent to him by the Armstrong Investigating Committee of New York. The provisions of the bills are in substance as follows:

No. 485. Prohibits contributions by corporations doing business in the State to political campaigns. Penalty, fine of $100 to $5,000; imprisonment, one to five years.

No. 486. Provides that persons representing corporations, persons or associations, in favor of or in opposition to pending legislation, shall file with the Secretary of State statement of interests served. Provides for listing of statement of expenses incurred in the lobby work by the corporation or person served, with penalty of charter forfeiture for violation of the law.

No. 487. Assures publicity in the management of life insurance companies. Provides that the Insurance Commissioner must in his annual report cover all assets and the nature of the same, and also the character of disbursements, etc., including salaries and disbursements, statement of profit and losses, rate of dividends declared, etc.

No. 488. Limits the expense of securing new business for life insurance companies, surplus on hand now and in the future, annually.

No. 490. Provides method of converting stock life insurance corporations into mutuals.

No. 491. Provides the method for fixing the compensation of officers and employees of life insurance companies. No salary in excess of $5,000 unless by a majority vote of directors. Prohibits pensions for old employees.

No. 492. Requiring mutual or participating companies to keep a complete record of all expenditures, and all expenditures to be evidenced by proper vouchers.

No. 493. Limits the insurance upon any one life to $50,000 for a mutual and 10 per cent. of capital stock for stock companies. Mutual cannot, however, write a policy or policies on any one life of over 5 per cent. of its surplus.

No. 494. Fixes the surrender value of lapsed or forfeited policies.

No. 495. Limits the amount of new insurance to be written by life insurance companies in Ohio. Companies having insurance in force of more than $50,000,000 and less than $100,000,000 not more than 30 per cent.; $100,000,000 to $300,000,000, 25 per cent.; $300,000,000 to $600,000,000, 20 per cent.; $600,000,000 to $1,000,000,000, 15 per cent.; $1,000,000,000 up, not more than $150,000,000 shall be issued.

No. 496. Prohibits life insurance companies from issuing both participating and stock policies.

No. 497. Regulates the loading charges on life insurance premiums.

No. 498. Prohibits the circulation or issuance of false estimates on life insurance dividends. Penalty, $100 to $5,000; prison, one to five years.

No. 499. Procides that life insurance policies shall contain the entire contract of insurance.

No. 500. Regulating the form of life insurance policies, and provides a standard therefor. This bill provides four standard forms, as recommended by the Armstrong Committee, viz., ordinary life, limited payment life, endowment and term.

South Carolina.

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 9.—Governor Heyward will give a hearing on March 13 on the bill which passed the Legislature at its late session, plucking fire insurance companies for the beneficiary funds of fire departments. The Governor has been urged by the insurance agents and the press of the State to veto the bill, but he desires to hear argument on the question.

Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., March 8.—The Senate today passed House Bill 175, by Mr. Caton, establishing a State department of in-

surance. The bill covers ninety-seven pages and revises the entire insurance law of the State. Col. Joseph Bulton, clerk of the Senate, is to be Insurance Commissioner.

The Senate Insurance Committee has favorably reported the anti-compact bill, which passed the House recently.

RICHMOND, Va., March 9.—The House has passed House Bill No. 118, requiring $10,000 deposits of all companies organized in Virginia. It has also passed House Bill No. 242, making the amount set out in a fire insurance policy prima facie evidence of the value of the property insured. The Legislature will finally adjourn tomorrow night, and the Williams anti-compact bill is dead on the Senate calendar.

Obituary.

Death of Major Livingston Mims.

Major Livingston Mims, of Atlanta, Ga., Southern department manager for the New York Life insurance company since the close of the Civil War in 1865; president of the South Eastern Tariff Association of fire underwriters from 1889 to 1894; president of the Georgia Association of Life Insurers in 1893 and 1897; Southern manager for the Home (fire) of New York from 1873 to 1889; mayor of Atlanta, Ga., in 1901 and 1902, died on Monday last from diabetes. Major Mims was the best known and perhaps the most widely beloved man in Atlanta. His death is accounted as a public bereavement, and was the occasion of a special message by Mayor Woodward to the city council. The following sketch of this distinguished citizen and underwriter appears in the Atlanta *Evening News:*

Major Livingston Mims was born about eighty-five years ago, as nearly as can be determined, in the State of South Carolina, but early in his life his father moved his family to a farm near Jackson, Miss., and there his boyhood days were spent.

When a young man he left his father's farm one morning and walked to Jackson to begin his career in life with a capital of 50 cents in his pocket. His first application for work was made to a clerk of the chancery court, and he was informed that no employment could be offered him except that of copying transcripts at 3 1-3 cents per hundred words, and the next moment found him with pen in hand engaged in this occupation. He was quickly promoted to the position of deputy clerk at a salary of $2,000, feeling, as he often expressed it, "wealthier than the Vanderbilts and Astors ever felt." His next promotion was to the position of commissioner in chancery, a lucrative position which was the beginning of a comfortable fortune which was swept away as a result of the Civil War.

As a young man he practiced law in Jackson, and represented the Senatorial district in which he lived in the State Senate. He was a warm personal friend of Jefferson Davis, and his admiration of and affection for the president of the Confederacy was unbounded. In the Presidential campaign of 1860 he was an elector on the Breckenridge and Lane electoral ticket. He also served on the military staffs of several governors of Mississippi prior to the Civil War.

Having established his fortune, Major Mims lived at a beautiful country home near Jackson, and here it was his pleasure to entertain his friends and dispense hospitality with the grace and charm peculiar to the ante-bellum Southern gentleman.

He enlisted in the Confederate Army at the first call to arms, going to the front as a private, but soon was promoted to the position of an officer on the staff of General Pemberton, and later served on the staff of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. Between General Johnston and Major Mims a strong friendship grew and continued during the life of General Johnston. At the close of the war, when both men returned to civil life and took up the battle against adversity, they were penniless. They organized the insurance firm of Joseph E. Johnston & Co. at Savannah, and continued the business for several years, at the end of which time General Johnston returned to his Virginia home, while Major Mims came to Atlanta, where he lived the remainder of his life.

He became Southern manager for the New York Life insurance company and represented several fire insurance companies, and rapidly advanced to the position of the foremost insurance man in the South. For thirty-eight years he represented the New York Life insurance company, a position he held at the time of his death.

Major Mims was married three times, his first wife living but a year after their marriage. His second wife was the mother of his daughter, Mrs. Joseph Thompson, and she died while Mrs. Thompson was a mere child. He is survived by Mrs. Mims, his third wife.

For twenty years of the twenty-three years of existence of the Capital City Club Major Mims has been its president, and his name is indissolubly connected with the success of that institution.

Although prominent in politics in Mississippi before the war, Major Mims never sought political office in Georgia save on the occasion when he ran for mayor of Atlanta, and to this office he was elected by a flattering majority in a spirited campaign in 1900, his term of office covering the years 1901-2. During his administration the street car franchise legislation was passed by council, and other important interests of the city were at stake. Major Mims was active in safeguarding the interests of the public, and his administration of public affairs, while progressive, was marked with conservatism.

Socially Major Mims was known throughout the South. He had that subtle charm of manner typical of the old South, and none could dispense hospitality with more grace than this golden hearted gentleman. He was a delightful companion and conversationalist, and found much pleasure in the society of his juniors in age.

The funeral of Major Mims occurred on Tuesday. The public offices of the city were closed. Bishop Nelson of Georgia conducted the services at the residence of the deceased. Baptist and Christian Science ministers also took part. Veterans of the Confederacy escorted the remains to the cemetery. A number of Atlanta underwriters were among the active and honorary pall bearers.

Miscellany.

The Hearing on the Armstrong Bills at Albany.

The hearing given by the Armstrong and other insurance committees of the New York Legislature yesterday in the Assembly chamber at Albany on the Armstrong insurance bills attracted a very large number of people, representing not only insurance but many other interests. Many members of the Legislature were also present.

Senator Armstrong called the hearing at 10:30 o'clock a. m., and said:

If there has any impression gone abroad that we are not as glad to hear you as you are to hear us, it is erroneous. We are glad the day has come when the recommendations of the committee can be freely discussed and suggestions offered with as much freedom as possible. Assistance in perfecting the work of our committee is desired. We invite advice and criticism which will help to reach a satisfactory result, but I want to say that arguments must be based on facts, not numbers or noise. I feel sure we shall all profit by the day or days spent in consideration of these recommendations. But time spent in anything but presentation of reasonable arguments will be wasted. We shall sit today and as often thereafter as is necessary to afford every chance to arrive at a result equally satisfactory to you representing insurance interests, and to us.

At the conclusion of this brief address, Senator Armstrong presented ex-Lieut. Gov. Woodruff, who acted as manager of the opposing forces of the insurance companies. He outlined the programme for the day's proceedings.

Mr. Woodruff explained that the presidents of the insurance companies, then the actuaries, would speak, and finally the arguments against certain recommendations of the Armstrong Committee would be summed up by William B. Hornblower. Speaking for himself he outlined the extent of insurance interests represented. He said that practically all the companies of the country were either directly or indirectly represented, as well

(*Continued on page* 187.)

Life Insurance Business in Maryland in 1905.

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna	279	$423,815	3,558	$6,804,418	$270,052	$108,053
Baltimore	336	209,637	500	340,635	14,058	712
Berkshire	57	146,000	421	1,237,850	42,824	32,278
Columbian National	136	637,884	202	1,134,884	25,492	11,000
Conn. Mutual	94	235,005	805	2,899,974	95,896	134,024
Equitable, N. Y.	442	1,131,264	5,212	14,743,667	552,908	147,606
Fidelity Mutual	113	251,000	731	1,454,053	48,490	32,776
Germania	18	39,000	303	687,221	24,027	17,561
Home, N. Y.	90	166,692	376	977,301	36,046	31,092
John Hancock	536	823,500	1,404	2,548,263	89,892	10,000
Manhattan	99	278,970	264	581,619	17,181	9,000
Maryland	160	397,248	1,429	3,590,053	116,000	86,284
Mass. Mutual	161	327,350	1,096	2,570,073	92,960	8,244
Metropolitan	5,092	3,827,531	12,088	9,603,020	1,634,979	84,477
Michigan Mutual	97	204,314	415	884,540	27,032	4,500
Mutual Benefit	348	866,224	2,036	5,628,695	172,245	133,075
Mutual Life, N. Y.	781	2,129,994	8,073	20,072,532	679,486	328,311
National, Vt.	366	566,583	1,357	2,516,235	99,503	15,987
New Eng. Mutual	263	621,024	2,041	5,118,066	188,600	109,548
New York Life	1,206	2,941,498	7,533	18,437,470	712,332	235,665
N. American, Can.	21	45,000	45	86,500	------	------
Northw'n Mutual	348	1,127,500	3,666	12,837,651	436,638	171,192
Penn Mutual	133	292,500	1,316	3,592,074	137,531	34,273
Phœnix Mutual	146	308,734	471	1,073,963	39,458	16,000
Prov. L and T.	297	862,075	3,276	10,917,462	388,702	69,957
Provident Savings	76	220,630	282	717,340	22,775	------
Prudential	1,271	1,329,185	3,989	4,645,888	161,412	32,140
Reliance, Pitsburgh	3	3,000	5	5,000	360	------
Security Mtuual	18	283,355	174	329,338	11,812	------
Security T. & L.	39	52,740	287	456,321	22,790	3,908
State Mutual, Mass.	244	475,486	1,781	4,111,125	141,646	36,906
Sun, Canada	279	342,901	605	620,956	22,966	182
Travelers	124	277,614	738	2,036,566	62,859	22,345
Union Central	136	319,625	862	1,759,675	68,001	18,411
Union Mutual	104	203,547	508	774,766	23,069	------
United States	50	132,960	512	1,122,874	36,069	16,655
Washington	37	89,600	303	627,208	21,988	13,825
Totals, 1905	14,000	$22,491,085	67,674	$147,545,274	$7,538,097	$1,974,987
" 1904	12,050	22,056,315	65,003	138,430,754	7,336,873	3,088,051
" 1903	11,877	19,117,384	56,348	126,965,533	5,921,075	2,473,065
" 1902	10,953	21,666,128	51,512	121,576,991	5,607,817	1,533,672
" 1901	11,757	21,061,223	45,542	113,311,132	5,060,139	1,831,778
" 1900	8,694	18,638,176	38,962	102,575,240	4,584,055	1,256,068
" 1899	8,520	18,894,806	35,476	95,246,975	4,175,729	1,667,308
" 1898	6,760	14,134,063	30,622	87,249,006	3,853,332	1,580,025
" 1897	5,408	12,292,582	28,273	83,809,574	3,547,953	1,503,843
" 1896	4,617	11,173,656	25,668	78,701,852	2,591,991	1,383,398
" 1895	4,465	11,772,303	19,976	76,336,383	2,426,047	1,635,402
" 1894	4,439	12,568,790	23,754	74,005,952	2,531,944	1,072,681
" 1893	4,391	13,675,528	20,256	69,515,603	2,179,938	1,171,272
" 1892	4,232	15,431,187	19,864	63,587,912	2,140,381	1,479,445
" 1891	3,432	9,971,141	23,749	57,840,191	1,877,754	1,015,531
" 1890	3,396	8,219,041	22,411	54,066,689	2,407,836	1,451,989
" 1889	2,879	7,079,702	21,864	50,120,381	2,105,951	1,191,060
" 1888	1,843	6,627,358	15,500	46,391,332	1,873,315	948,432
" 1887	1,667	5,741,763	16,108	44,957,953	1,697,856	971,337
" 1886	1,436	5,385,046	14,711	43,746,806	1,470,605	873,982
" 1885	1,335	4,567,303	15,730	41,187,847	1,242,314	957,983
" 1884	1,338	4,037,395	14,689	40,621,234	1,200,541	797,033
" 1883	1,486	4,147,117	13,777	38,423,366	1,097,819	779,969
" 1882	1,337	4,360,396	13,883	38,240,155	1,122,010	780,196

Industrial business in 1905, not included in the above, was as follows: Baltimore Life, policies issued, number, 25,724; amount, $2,610,792. John Hancock, policies issued, number, 9,877; amount, $1,510,686. Metropolitan, policies issued, number, 58,148; amount, $8,277,902. Prudential, policies issued, number, 38,208; amount, $4,398,387. Mutual Life of Maryland, policies issued, number, 19,783; amount, $2,279,010. Immediate Benefit of Baltimore, policies issued, number, 14,929; amount, $1,270,276. Eureka, Baltimore, policies issued, number, 17,789; amount, $1,141,379.

We are indebted to the *Baltimore Underwriter* for the returns of 1905.

Life Insurance Business in Vermont in 1905.

(Compiled from the Statement by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Company of Vermont.						
National	456	$679,882	5,302	$7,524,152	$306,663	$52,143
Companies of Other States.						
Ætna	102	107,940	1,468	1,673,390	51,779	46,228
Bankers	5	3,500	43	20,100	1,029	------
Columbian National	279	323,932	236	276,750	10,343	500
Conn. General	473	545,587	3,729	4,057,495	129,217	59,892
Conn. Mutual	121	162,658	861	1,447,657	47,440	34,486
Equitable	147	186,175	3,090	4,082,411	138,592	44,905
Fidelity	15	27,654	27	51,654	1,768	------
Home	88	125,220	384	399,981	20,516	18,000
John Hancock	19	40,010	16	37,010	1,641	7,000
Manhattan	6	7,835	91	117,589	3,485	1,600
Massachusetts	12	12,000	661	929,579	32,750	16,057
Metropolitan	1,293	759,400	4,265	2,858,459	125,317	23,430
Mutual Benefit	129	182,482	715	947,351	33,481	5,275
Mutual of N. Y.	489	555,970	6,615	8,779,007	282,374	135,535
New York	609	926,151	4,898	7,956,316	311,461	104,016
Northwestern	187	309,000	2,154	3,447,702	127,412	59,364
Penn	35	51,512	188	318,844	14,613	------
Phœnix	138	143,945	1,781	1,808,139	72,160	16,869
Prov. Life and T'st	70	102,500	180	342,367	12,131	1,000
Provident Savings	7	13,368	192	256,676	9,203	------
Prudential	281	286,608	1,144	1,374,084	58,097	3,570
Reliance	8	7,500	10	9,500	471	------
Security	86	97,018	221	247,048	9,801	------
State	31	47,660	487	747,314	26,339	20,172
Travelers	208	278,448	1,605	2,598,378	93,815	32,503
Union Central	33	17,820	443	546,409	21,920	5,000
Union Mutual	114	127,215	323	377,154	12,759	4,000
United States	62	71,520	322	330,223	18,134	500
Washington	29	35,780	224	220,551	9,536	2,132
Totals, 1905	5,076	$5,556,408	36,373	$46,259,138	$1,677,585	$642,033
" 1904	5,516	6,521,282	36,651	48,175,169	1,924,680	720,415
" 1903	6,444	5,429,883	32,380	41,111,908	1,499,145	683,059
" 1902	5,383	5,858,307	31,529	41,320,525	1,467,006	660,569
" 1901	4,803	5,558,558	28,803	38,631,433	1,359,285	598,937
" 1900	5,150	5,943,397	26,669	36,585,819	1,245,485	452,955
" 1899	4,144	6,539,563	25,529	36,062,421	1,297,921	369,594
" 1898	3,945	4,738,412	22,918	32,166,369	1,145,866	435,354
INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE BUSINESS IN 1905.						
Columbian National	5,322	$700,396	3,841	$504,871	$16,271	$4,603
Metropolitan	7,150	1,311,942	23,711	4,128,991	133,820	18,562
Prudential	198	33,607	715	149,982	5,947	1,834
Totals, 1905	12,670	$2,045,945	28,267	$4,783,844	$156,038	$24,999
" 1904	9,878	1,693,416	20,637	3,533,179	125,861	21,387
" 1903	5,959	1,053,213	19,791	3,412,924	109,380	19,284
" 1902	6,492	1,249,255	17,779	3,120,627	95,667	13,974
" 1901	5,893	1,110,157	15,053	2,558,662	79,283	13,063
" 1900	6,114	1,127,327	12,541	2,112,656	67,470	10,293
" 1899	5,180	624,957	9,762	1,480,615	51,119	13,514
" 1898	4,633	883,320	7,750	1,289,095	41,777	10,000

Fire Insurance Business in Vermont in 1905.

(Compiled from the Statement of the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Stock Companies of Other States.			
Ætna, Hartford	$2,635,328	$38,799	$5,922
Alliance, Philadelphia	103,283	1,540	4
American Fire, Philadelphia	247,092	4,385	234
Boston, Boston	927,017	18,919	5,925
Capital, Concord	614,813	9,920	5,154
Colonial, New York	51,895	1,170	------
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	1,215,700	17,999	4,222
Continental, New York	1,664,979	27,042	12,683
Fire Association, Philadelphia	811,576	9,534	5,434
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	1,072,459	11,751	1,822
Germania Fire, New York	209,642	3,458	826
Granite State, Portsmouth	620,885	9,202	5,468
Hartford Fire, Hartford	3,148,121	39,979	7,736
Home, New York	5,211,310	50,679	25,545
Ins. Co. of North America	2,391,664	38,151	16,860
National, Hartford	1,914,812	20,063	4,105
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	1,273,976	14,913	3,478
Niagara Fire, New York	639,496	11,299	4,471
Orient, Hartford	779,163	10,994	4,011
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	605,166	12,469	3,069
Phenix, Brooklyn	1,100,769	15,531	5,743
Phœnix, Hartford	2,012,921	30,578	9,329
Providence-Washington, Providence	933,366	8,058	829
Springfield Fire and Marine	1,807,261	21,603	7,774
Traders, Chicago	576,486	9,553	1,731
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	349,011	5,927	602
Westchester Fire, New York	269,364	4,309	648
Williamsburgh City, New York	605,436	8,654	1,894
Totals	$33,792,991	$456,478	$145,519

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Companies of Other Countries.			
Aachen & Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$241,638	$3,459	$113
Atlas, London	788,638	12,322	2,338
British America, Toronto	369,407	7,118	1,458
Commercial Union, London	1,099,142	18,307	7,655
Law Union and Crown, London	93,390	669	35
Liverpool and London and Globe	2,888,779	29,053	5,420
London Assurance Corporation	309,003	5,397	1,153
N. British and Mercantile, London	821,481	11,243	1,435
Northern, London	858,491	11,329	142
Norwich Union, Norwich	642,487	8,901	406
Palatine, London	158,072	2,443	1,378
Phœnix, London	491,928	9,978	1,404
Royal, Liverpool	937,177	13,943	4,511
State, Liverpool	31,704	380	25
Sun, London	797,480	11,625	2,701
Union, London	406,257	2,930	118
Western, Toronto	1,344,213	11,246	2,124
Totals	$12,279,287	$160,342	$32,413
Mutual Companies of Other States.			
Berkshire, Pittsfield	$347,384	$6,338	$1,261
Cambridge, Cambridge	541,929	9,814	1,461
Citizens, Boston	4,550	49	------
Fitchburg, Fitchburg	820,118	12,255	339
Holyoke, Holyoke	10,500	174	------
Lumber, New York	246,800	10,001	3,771
Merchants and Farmers, Worcester	239,659	4,265	228
Merrimack, Lowell	464,744	7,342	650
Middlesex, Concord	6,550	119	------
Mutual Protection, Charlestown	225,675	4,833	681
Providence, Providence	259,860	3,108	2,007
Quincy, Quincy	292,525	5,314	4,589
Traders and Mechanics, Lowell	506,922	9,074	1,068
Totals	$3,967,216	$72,684	$16,055
Mutual Companies of Vermont.			
State, Rutland	$761,224	$12,529	$12,414
Union, Montpelier	6,061,191	131,951	89,139
Vermont, Montpelier	21,159,890	346,300	219,403
Totals	$27,982,305	$490,781	$320,956
Grand Totals, 1905	$78,021,799	$1,180,284	$514,942
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	74,549,630	1,131,883	683,691
1903	72,414,051	1,127,053	796,412
1902	62,786,461	1,015,531	479,793
1901	63,423,034	914,072	475,870
1900	62,897,520	849,726	526,969
1899	57,741,791	840,848	631,529
1898	53,944,189	793,089	428,978
1897	52,334,748	788,289	322,126
1896	52,017,029	789,021	334,403
1895	53,872,070	770,294	826,233
1894	50,045,077	763,143	585,631
1893	49,608,005	766,658	527,805
1892	38,075,260	532,101	416,498
1891	36,938,277	474,537	522,330
1880 to 1890	294,378,766	3,924,637	2,543,077

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 63.9. The percentage in 1905 was 43.6.

(*Continued from page* 185.)

as the agents and also groups of policyholders representing 21,000,000 policies.

He then presented Paul Morton, president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

PRESIDENT MORTON'S STATEMENT.

Mr. Morton presented a communication in which he began by admitting that serious evils had crept into the insurance business and by assuring the committee that he was in accord with its general purposes. He said, however, that if these bills were enacted without changes, it would seriously injure the insurance interests of the State.

Not only will the insurance companies be unable to conduct their business in such a manner as to produce fair returns to their policyholders and meet the requirements of the people of the State for new insurance, but the conservative insurance companies of other States will be forced to discontinue business in this State. In short, the result of the legislation which you have recommended will be the reverse of the result you are seeking to accomplish.

Mr. Morton referred to the suggestion that the bills, even if imperfect, could be amended at the next session of the Legislature, but pointed out that the investigation had commanded such widespread confidence that the example of New York would quite surely be followed by other States, and therefore the laws enacted at this session should be as nearly perfect as possible.

Mr. Morton then took up the changes in the bills he would suggest. In brief, he believed that with certain qualifications insurance companies should be allowed the same latitude in the matter of investments as heretofore.

PRESIDENT ORR'S ADDRESS.

The president of the New York Life insurance company said that he had not been connected long with life insurance, but he appreciated the labors of the committee, and came to the hearing with no feeling of captious criticism or opposition. He added, however:

At the same time there are some bills to which we cannot give our approval. We remember with much appreciation the remarks made by the chairman of this committee during the investigation that its object was to build up, not to tear down, the insurance interests of the State. Therefore we believe it is the proper province of the insurance companies to aid in the passage of wise, conservative and progressive laws, and for that purpose we are here today. Others will speak of the actuarial and technical questions involved, but there is one thing I wish to say to you. If the bills as now formulated become laws, the business of my company will be cut in half, absolutely cut in half. Last year the New York Life wrote $300,000,000 of life insurance. The proposition now is to reduce this one-half, and the law doing this is to take effect immediately without giving us time to accommodate ourselves gradually to the change. The question vitally affects our large corps of employees.

PRESIDENT PEABODY'S REMARKS.

Mr. Orr was followed by Charles A. Peabody, president of the Mutual Life. Mr. Peabody said:

On behalf of the officers and trustees of my company, I desire to say that we appreciate the great results that are to flow from the labors of this committee, if the legislation now pending shall be perfected wisely, and it cannot fail to be a lasting benefit to the policyholders, both of the State and the nation. But they also cannot help recognizing the fact that in the pending legislation mistakes have been made. I believe that in some respects, perhaps three or four things, buried in the mass of valuable provisions, cannot fail to do permanent harm to life insurance and to policyholders. To point out these mistakes, mainly actuarial, is not my province. I am a new man in this field; the officers and actuaries of the various companies are here for that purpose. They will point out as experts the dangers and what we believe to be the serious errors that are now in a way to be committed, if the pending legislation shall be adopted.

President Ide, of the Home Life, appeared for the smaller New York companies, and explained wherein Section 87 would be detrimental to companies of that class. He claimed that the bill to limit business would prove almost ruinous in its operation.

Actuary Joel C. Van Cise, of the Equitable, was the next speaker. He took up the deferred dividend section of the bill, and made an able defense of that class of business, claiming that it was of greater benefit to the policyholder than annual dividends. He cited the many failures in 1873 of annual dividend companies. Policyholders should be allowed to make such contracts as they wanted. There should be freedom of contract. There was no reason for forbidding deferred premium contracts. The deferred dividend was no more of a gamble than the annual dividend in a majority of cases—not so much so. The decline in dividends was due to natural causes—reduction of income from investments, increased taxation and increased cost of business. Surplus was not the cause of mismanagement.

Many questions were put to Mr. Van Cise by members of the committee.

Mr. Moir, actuary of the Provident Savings Life, spoke also on the deferred dividend question, saying that in the distribution of surplus the danger was of a company distributing too much surplus instead of too little. The same set of rules

cannot apply to every company. He scored the twister as dishonest and disreputable.

At the afternoon session the speakers were John K. Gove, actuary of the Prudential, and Emory McClintock. The latter said that no actuary could combat the general proposition of preventing extravagant expenditures. After saying, however, that he sympathized with the agents throughout the country, he spoke of the cost of insurance to policyholders. In order to make insurance cheap and profitable to the insured, he said, the Legislature should encourage competition among the companies in the matter of dividends. At this point he took occasion to praise the investigating committee, saying that its inquiry had done "more good than anything that ever happened in the history of insurance."

Parts of the proposed bills, he said, should not be opposed by anybody. The annual public accounting, for instance, would be of great benefit; yet he did not wish to disparage his associates' arguments for deferred dividends, and he thought there were good arguments for them.

"If you are going to limit the cost of new business, you must do it so that people will know what you mean," said Mr. McClintock, "and that is not done in this bill."

The hearing was still in progress when this paper went to press, and still other speakers were to be heard. The agents were out in full force from all over the State, and had their own spokesman ready.

Among others present besides those mentioned above were Presidents Holcombe, of the Phœnix Mutual Life, and De Boer, of the National Life of Vermont; Vice President Lunger and W. Bro Smith, of the Travelers; R. V. Lindabury, counsel of the Prudential; H. W. Taft, counsel of the Mutual Life; H. W. St. John, vice president and actuary of the Ætna Life; Philip H. Farley, Eli D. Weeks, H. J. Birdseye, W. C. Johnson, and the representatives of the *Insurance Press, Standard* and this paper.

Indictment of Officers of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company.

The grand jury in New York County on Thursday found indictments for grand larceny and forgery against Frederick A. Burnham, president; George D. Eldridge, vice president and actuary, and George Burnham, Jr., second vice president, of the Mutual Reserve Life insurance company. Five indictments were returned against each defendant, two for grand larceny in the first degree and three for forgery in the third degree.

The three defendants appeared in the Court of Special Sessions on Thursday afternoon, accompanied by their counsel, William Rand, Jr., former chief assistant district attorney, and were arraigned. At the request of counsel the defendants were allowed until next Thursday to enter a plea. Meantime bail was fixed at $2,500 for each of the accused on each separate charge, making the total amount of bail for each man $12,500. It was furnished at once by Richard Deeves, a director in the company.

The first indictment charges the defendants with embezzling $7,500 of the company's funds on October 24, 1901. In the second they are charged with embezzling the sum of $1,500 on the same date. The third indictment, charging forgery, alleges that they caused the sum of $7,500 to be entered on the cash books of the company as paid to Nicholls & Bacon, lawyers, in settlement for a claim held by their client, F. B. Armstrong, against the company and arising out of a contract between him and the company, while, in fact, the money was paid to settle an action which J. Douglas Wells had brought against Frederick A. Burnham individually.

The fourth indictment, also for forgery, alleges that, in similar manner, the sum of $1,500 was entered on the books of the company as paid to the law firm of James, Schell & Elkus for legal services to the company, while the money instead was paid to that firm with instructions to use it to reimburse Wells for his expenses in defending an action for criminal libel brought against him by Frederick A. Burnham and George D. Eldridge as individuals.

According to the fifth indictment, which is the third for forgery, the three defendants are charged with having entered $5,000 on the books as paid on September 24, 1901, to James, Schell & Elkus for legal services to the company. Instead, the indictment alleges, the sum in question was paid through the law firm to Baldwin & White, attorneys for J. Thomson Patterson, to settle a suit brought by Patterson against the company and two of the defendants, as well as to settle costs growing out of suits brought by Frederick A. Burnham and George D. Eldridge as individuals and by the company against Patterson.

The indictments refer to the company as the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association, which was its name in 1901. They allege finally that the cash book of the company is kept under the direction of the three defendants.

The only statement which either of the defendants would consent to make to the newspaper reporters was the following by Vice President Burnham. He said: "We had been expecting this. I have been practicing law for the last twenty-five years, and this is the first time I have ever been accused of any wrong. I have never been in the criminal courts and know nothing of their procedure. I care not to discuss the case besides stating that if there has been any crime committed it is but a technical one."

Views of President Alexander E. Orr, of the New York Life, on Life Insurance Management—He Defends Deferred Dividend Policies.

The new president of the New York Life insurance company has contributed the following article to the Louisville *Courier-Journal:*

At the end of 1904, the latest date for which complete statistics are available, the life companies reporting to the New York Insurance Department had contracts in force calling for the payment of over $10,000,000,000, and owned securities of the value of over $2,000,000,000. The total benefits paid policyholders by companies doing business in the State since the organization of the department, in 1859, amount to over $3,500,000,000. The total amount paid the insured and now held for their benefit is more than double the amount of the national debt of the United States at the highest point ever reached—soon after the close of the Civil War.

This growth and accumulation has practically all taken place within the last sixty years, and is the most impressive argument that can be adduced as to the importance of life insurance. This system of protection, for those who die prematurely, and of saving or investment for those who live long, is the best counterbalance that the genius of man has yet devised to the uncertainty of life and the fickleness of fortune. It is in the interest of good morals, good citizenship and of human happiness that provision should be made for the widow, the orphan and the aged, and made in such a manner as not to wound their self respect, nor release from obligation those upon whom they are normally dependent.

The particular form of policy under which a man should insure depends entirely upon his circumstances. In an advancing civilization man's needs increase and methods become more complicated. When the New York Life insurance company began business in 1845 it issued three forms of policy; now its policy forms run into the hundreds. The early policies provided for the one contingency of death; later forms provide for the contingency of death in connection with a great many other contingencies that are equally certain to happen in many cases. Some of these contingencies are: that the insured may live long and need money in his old age; that he may not be able to pay premiums when due; that he may wish to pay for his insurance within a fixed period, that he may wish a loan on his policy to tide him over a hard year; that he may wish to change the beneficiary or

the method of payment of the policy when it becomes a claim.

In order to provide for these contingencies not only have many policy forms been devised, but many optional and conditional benefits have been incorporated in the ordinary policy forms; thus, instead of only term policies, and whole life policies with continuous premiums, as in 1845, the New York Life now issues, in addition to these, whole life policies paid up by ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five or thirty years, and a variety of other policies combining insurance with savings and annuity.

A policy may provide that it shall not participate in surplus, or may provide for distributions of surplus annually, or at the end of longer periods; and so we get the classification of non-participating policies, annual dividend policies and deferred dividend policies. The purpose of these two methods of distributing surplus is very similar to that underlying the different forms of policy, as denoted by the premium tables upon which they are issued. That purpose is to adapt the policy to men's needs and to furnish an incentive to insure under it. As the

ADVANTAGES OF THE DEFERRED METHODS

of distributing surplus are just now widely discussed, it may be well to examine it somewhat closely. It cannot be denied that it has accomplished its purpose as above noted, since a large proportion of the business of American companies is written on this plan, and the companies that have made a specialty of it are the largest in the world. It has insured men and kept them insured, and more money has been paid to widows and orphans under deferred dividend policies in this country than under all other forms put together.

Under an annual dividend policy the dividend makes a reduction in the cost of one's insurance every year, beginning with the second or third. Under the deferred dividend policy the insured pays the full premium during a period of ten, fifteen or twenty years; the policies of those who die are paid in full; those who discontinue the payment of premiums receive either term insurance or paid up insurance, the surplus arising from all policies is accumulated until the end of the period, and is then divided among the survivors who have kept their policies in force. The difference in results is the insured who die and those who discontinue the payment of premiums during the dividend period get their insurance somewhat cheaper under the annual dividend plan, and those who survive and keep up their policies receive more surplus under the deferred dividend plan.

The objection is made to the deferred dividend plan that the families of those who die might have had more money by using annual dividends to increase their insurance. If this were a valid objection it would prove too much, since it would put under a ban every form policy except the ordinary life policy on the non-participating table.

But men expect to live long even while they admit the constant risk of death. And, on the average, they are right. The man insuring at age thirty-three has four chances of living twenty years longer against one chance of dying in that time. Why should he not, if he so desires, provide for the four contingencies as well as for the one? Under a twenty year endowment policy a man at the younger ages pays more than twice as much for protection against death as he does under the ordinary life policy, but he receives a correspondingly greater benefit if he lives—which he does in four cases out of five. It is the operation of this principle of benefit to the survivor that makes endowment insurance attractive, and it is the operation of the same principle, in a less degree, that makes deferred dividend policies attractive. Both are legitimate forms of insurance, and both attract men who are not attracted by other forms; and thus the number of men who insure is increased, and the number of families who are protected is increased. Neither form involves a forfeiture, each distributes the proceeds of a certain class of policies according to a prearranged and well understood plan. The deferred dividend plan performs

ANOTHER FUNCTION,

which should not be overlooked in this connection. The three elements which determine the amount of surplus earned on life policies are: The death rate, the expense rate and the interest rate, including in the latter the gain or loss experienced in investing money. The death rate does not become normal until about the fifth year; the expense rate is much greater in the first year than in subsequent years; and, while the interest rate is fairly steady, the gain or loss on investments is realized only at considerable intervals. It is not possible, therefore, to determine how much any group of policies has actually contributed to surplus unless the calculation covers a considerable period of time. The deferred dividend plan, therefore, enables a company to apportion surplus to the policies of each year in a much more equitable manner than does the annual dividend plan.

It also enables a company to make a much closer division of the surplus earned. In a company issuing only annual dividend policies, a surplus must be accumulated as a safety fund, over and above legal liabilities, and this is never all paid out. Under the deferred dividend system, when one class of ten, fifteen or twenty year policies reaches maturity all the surplus earned by this class may be apportioned to the policies, because the surplus of the unmatured classes thereafter acts as a safety fund until they mature, just as the surplus of maturing groups previous safeguarded other groups.

This function is of great importance with respect to policies issued upon sub-standard lives, the mortality of which cannot be so accurately determined in advance. It is only by accumulating the surplus arising under such policies during a considerable period that such lives can be insured, except at rates that, to many, would be prohibitive. Yet these people stand in greater need of insurance than those who rank as standard lives, and their protection by insurance is a correspondingly greater benefit to their families and to the community at large. The New York Life took up the insurance of sub-standard lives ten years ago, after an exhaustive study of the subject during a period of three years, covering its own rejected risks of the previous twenty years, besides other valuable data relating to the subject. It has been able to offer the protection of insurance to many who were formerly unable to obtain it, and its experience with such lives has been in practical harmony with the data upon which it was based. The deferred dividend system has been an added safeguard in this business, without which the company would not have felt at liberty to undertake the work.

THE WORK OF THE ARMSTRONG INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

has attracted widespread interest, and in the end life insurance will be the better for it, although some injustice may be done by the way. There is a tendency in public opinion to overpraise at one time and to overcriticise at another. While I am not disposed to defend any wrongdoing, it should be noted that errors of management disclosed by the investigation have been in the nature of superficial blemishes in a great success. The substance of the great fabric of life insurance is sound. Life insurance thirty years ago went through a crisis of another sort; then much of the fabric was unsound and had to be cut away. Then a large proportion of the companies failed; now the companies most criticised are acknowledged to be immensely beneficial and solvent beyond any question.

It should also be noted that the investigation has unmasked some of the difficulties against which life insurance has had to contend, and an aroused public conscience should hereafter prevent their influence for evil and render unnecessary certain measures hitherto taken against them by the companies which measures are rightfully condemned. There has been nothing disclosed by the investigation that should lead anyone who is now insured to discontinue his policy, nor that should prevent the man who needs insurance from insuring. On the contrary the general results of the committee's work

The Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation

(LIMITED),

OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

Total Available Resources, $6,816,020.00

$1,971,756.98 deposited in the United States for the benefit of United States Policyholders.

SAMUEL APPLETON, United States Manager,
Employers' Liability Building, 33 Broad Street, Boston, Mass.

EDMUND DWIGHT,
Resident Manager for New York State,
76 William Street, New York.

must be to render life insurance safer and more desirable than before.

I think the only qualification necessary to this last remark is the supposition that the legislatures of the various States do not enter upon a campaign of unscientific and oppressive legislation. A keener sense of responsibility and greater vigilance, on the part of trustees, and greater thoroughness and fuller publicity, on the part of insurance departments, will do more than all else to correct the evils disclosed; while on the other hand hasty and ill considered legislation might do tenfold more harm than the business has yet suffered from errors of management.

In arriving at these conclusions I have been greatly aided by Mr. Rufus W. Weeks, one of the vice presidents and the chief actuary of the company. A. E. ORR.

CHARLES F. MITCHELL,

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56-58 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

Manager Eastern Department, Metropolitan Department

STAR FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

LOUISVILLE, KY.

Correspondence with Agents and Brokers solicited.

PHŒNIX

OF

HARTFORD

Capital	$2,000,000.00
Assets	8,140,630.43
Surplus	2,380,939.39
Surplus to Policyholders	4,380,939.39
Reinsurance Reserve	3,265,966.74
Losses Paid since Organization	55,816,109.50

AGENTS EVERYWHERE.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1905

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance. The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy. Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

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WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

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FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410.42	$11,290,773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$43,891,738.40
Liabilities,	36,675,050.24
Gross Surplus,	7,216,688.16

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.
Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

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INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

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WHAT is the use of saying
"The best company,"
or "The strongest company,"
or "The largest company"?
They all say these things.

WE SIMPLY SAY . . .

THE PENN MUTUAL LIFE Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Organized 1847.

THAT TELLS THE WHOLE STORY.

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references

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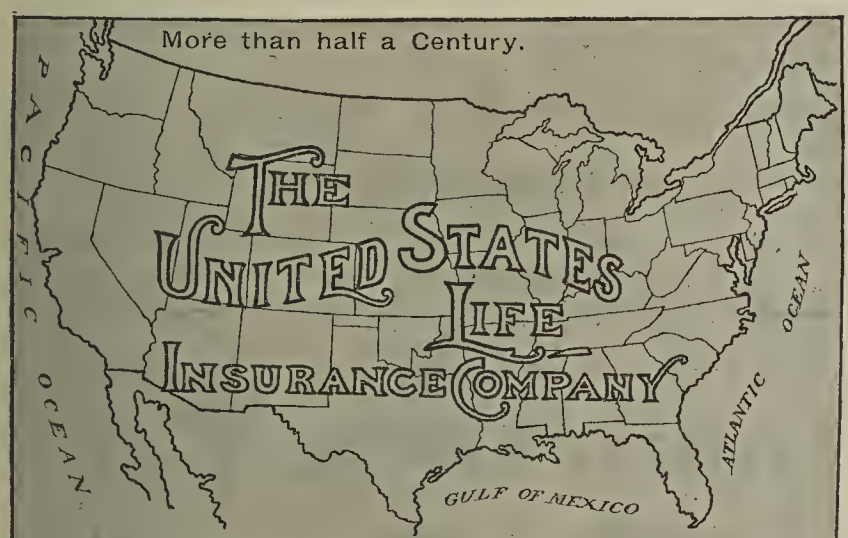
Applications will be considered strictly confidential.



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President

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CLARENCE H. KELSEY
Pres. Title Guar. and Trust Co.

WILLIAM H. PORTER
Pres. Chemical Nat'l Bank

Good men, whether experienced in life insurance or not, may make

DIRECT CONTRACTS

with this Company, for a limited territory if desired, and secure for themselves, in addition to first year's commission, a renewal interest insuring an income for the future. Address the Company at its HOME OFFICE, No. 277 Broadway, New York City.

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A. A. Smith, Secretary, H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.

Continental Casualty Company

POLICIES ARE PROTECTED by more than ONE MILLION DOLLARS ASSETS.

Capital Stock, $300,000.00

Accident and Health Insurance

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OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS paid in claims to 175,000 of our POLICYHOLDERS.

GOOD CONTRACTS IN GOOD TERRITORY TO GOOD MEN

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INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

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THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41
(Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endownment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune,* 12-12-05.

Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald,* 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

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It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

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Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

SUCCESSFUL LIFE INSURANCE MEN

wishing to secure a first class contract with a continuous renewal interest should communicate with

Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

New policy forms with special features very attractive to prospective insurers.

FOR FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS

C. H. JACKSON, Agency Secretary.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846–1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President.
HENRY S. ROBINSON, Vice-President.
HERBERT H. WHITE, Secretary.
DANIEL H. WELLS, Actuary.

ANDREW M. SWEENEY, Pres. SAMUEL QUINN, Vice-Pres. CHAS. F. COFFIN, 2d Vice-Pres. WILBUR S. WYNN, Sec.

The State Life Insurance Co.

Eleventh Annual Statement, December 31, 1905

ASSETS

Real estate, unincumbered	$1,102,018.02
First mortgage loans on real estate, worth at least twice the amount loaned thereon	1,488,078.00
Collateral loans	5,000.00
Loans to policyholders not exceeding reserve (policies deposited with company)	857,808.26
Renewal premium notes on policies in force, secured by their reserve	52,081.33
United States and municipal bonds	121,607.50
Cash in company's office and National Banks	232,142.15
Agents' debit balances	93,340.86
Interest and rents accrued	23,009.40
Net deferred and unreported premiums, reserve charged in liabilities	252,628.86
Total, Company's statement	$4,227,714.38
Non-admitted assets	101,032.08
Total admitted assets	$4,126,682.30

LIABILITIES

Net present cash value (reserve) of all outstanding policies, according to actuaries' table of mortality, with 4 per cent. interest on all policies dated prior to January 1, 1901, and American table, with 3 per cent. on all others as computed by the Actuary of the Insurance Dept. of the State of Indiana	$3,435,168.00
Losses due and unpaid	NONE
Losses in process of adjustment	31,000.00
Losses reported, proofs not received	22,000.00
Premiums and unearned interest paid in advance	22,559.66
Current accounts not due	7,055.24
Unpaid dividends to policyholders	2,582.71
Total liabilities	$3,521,731.49
Admitted surplus	605,316.69
Total	$4,126,682.30

UNPARALLELED GROWTH

The following comparisons show the unparalleled growth of the State Life since organization. The figures for 1895 include three months of 1894:

	Insurance in Force	Income	Admitted Assets	Reserve and All Other Liabilities	Admitted Surplus
	$	$	$	$	$
1895	3,548,500	60,022	18,000	15,868	2,432
1896	7,859,500	123,943	58,000	45,483	13,287
1897	11,885,500	204,983	150,890	88,276	62,615
1898	17,049,000	332,787	259,645	152,037	107,608
1899	22,208,470	467,225	417,781	256,246	161,534
1900	28,339,877	664,338	671,370	409,594	261,775
1901	33,615,656	901,728	1,015,072	699,418	315,654
1902	39,541,688	1,260,683	1,527,036	1,176,249	350,786
1903	49,713,796	1,748,490	2,205,636	1,815,059	390,577
1904	60,148,994	2,244,033	3,160,083	2,615,498	544,585
1905	74,440,588	2,729,911	4,126,682	3,521,731	605,317

General Offices: Tenth Floor, State Life Building, = = = = = INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

The Weekly Underwriter:

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THE legislative committees at Albany gave two more days this week to hearings on the insurance bills, and closed with a promise to turn over the matter of proposed amendments to a sub-committee, which will sit in the city of New York next week and be assisted by Counsel Hughes in reaching conclusions. It is already evident from the outgivings of some of the legislators that the bills will have to be modified in several important respects to secure a majority vote in the Senate, if not in the Assembly. The bold dash of Andrew Hamilton into the hearing of Thursday was a sensation to suit the most ardent desires of the yellow newspapers, and it is interesting to observe that, after excoriating him for five long months, they turn with delight to his attack on the trustees of his company, and in their gratitude for new objects of abuse pose him as a hero. Attorney Untermyer, hot from a conference with Lawson in Boston, appeared for the dear policyholders in behalf of an amendment to hasten the hour of trial by proxy for the possession of the companies. How well this projected raid on the policyholders' assets was described by Mr. McIntosh at the hearing, when he said:

> Men have boasted that they have already spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to be in position to control a partisan election for our board. Taking human nature as it is, do you not think that it is the men willing to spend these hundreds of thousands who will win the election, and if they are willing to spend, is it not reasonable to suppose they expect to get it back? We object to throwing $400,000,000 into the streets to be scrambled for by those who can raise the most proxies.

THERE is probably no legislation more needed than such—if it were possible to devise it—which would prevent attempts at legislation on frivolous and trivial pretexts, if not worse. Insurance interests are, as all experience teaches, a particularly shining target for people who think they want legislation, with hardly a rudimentary conception of what it is all about. Thus, for example, on Thursday the Massachusetts Legislative Insurance Committee considered five bills, three relating to life and two to fire insurance. If there was any popular sentiment in favor of these measures, it was not manifested by any of the people attending the hearing; neither were the petitioners for the proposed legislation in evidence. The committee, the newspaper men and a few capable insurance men, who had come to controvert the noxious propositions, comprised the entire attendance. The underwriters went over well worn ground answering elementary questions propounded by one or two members of the committee, proving propositions that were almost axiomatic in their nature and recapitulating facts and experiences that have grown trite by repetition. The remarks of the chairman of the committee, to his honor be it noted, gave plain evidence that he sensed the situation rightly, and warrant the expectation that he will influence his colleagues to report leave to withdraw upon the ill-digested measures submitted. But was it all worth while? And must this sort of thing be endured year after year?

SENATOR RIORDAN has reintroduced in the Legislature his funny bill of last year "to regulate the publication of printed or written reports and statements in reference to the financial condition of life and fire insurance companies in the State of New York and for other purposes," but he has changed it so as to relieve magazines, weekly, tri-weekly and monthly publications that have been in business ten years from its provisions. That lets us out, and, of course, disarms opposition from all insurance papers except those which have come into existence since the beginning of 1896. It would grieve us to see our esteemed contemporaries, *Assurance*, the *Insurance Field*, the *Insurance Report*, the *Insurance Leader*, *Insurance Engineering*, and some others obliged to put up $50,000 each in cold cash with the Superintendent of Insurance for the privilege of enjoying a circulation in the State of New York, because the tying up of so much of their available business funds would undoubtedly work a hardship. And they must show a surplus over their liabilities of $100,000, too. Perhaps they might avert these threatened tribulations by drawing on their "yellow dog" funds, and interviewing the Senator. Still, if it is true, as is confidentially reported, that the particular and only object of Mr. Riordan's animosity is a certain publication which furnishes information about the trustworthiness and likewise the untrustworthiness of surplus line companies, and is detested by Mr. Riordan's friends, the brokers, we cannot understand why he does not so amend his bill as to make the obliteration of that paper its sole purpose. Then he would have but one paper to fight, instead of the score which he now unnecessarily antagonizes. Let him think it over.

THE evidence grows that it is a concerted and matured movement that Mr. Stuyvesant Fish is leading on behalf of high financial interests to overthrow the present administration of the Mutual Life insurance company, and secure the direction of its vast assets. At least three of the New York daily papers are assisting the proceeding by carefully manipulating the news so as to produce the impression that a great policyholders' reform idea is its motive. One of these newspapers on last Sunday published a picture and sketch of the leader under the flaming headline, "Stuyvesant Fish. Policyholders' Champion," in which his virtues as a great manager fighting to save his railroad from certain Wall Street interests were exploited. In various parts of the country the movement is being cultivated apparently

from a central point. It is ostentatiously promoted by Lawson in Boston, and striven for by able counsel at Albany, and from New Orleans comes the boisterous announcement that Insurance Commissioner McGivney has decided to appeal for the support of Louisiana policyholders to Mr. Fish's "crusade for reform." "Convinced that the present Peabody administration seeks to cover up the irregularities of McCurdy's management," say the newspaper headlines. Also this:

If you hold a policy in the Mutual Mr. McGivney requests that you send him without delay, in care of the Insurance Department, Baton Rouge, its number, name and amount, and he will supply the necessary form of proxy to be filled in and returned to him for immediate delivery to Mr. Fish in New York. As the election is to occur in April, the necessity for prompt action is obvious.

It is deplorable that after the ordeal through which the Mutual Life has passed, with the consequent disorganization of its business—and that now that it has resumed its old legitimate functions under a conservative management that only recently received general approval—there should be started a struggle of financiers for its possession. The fight involves even wider interests than the insurance corporation, for control of a great railroad system is also a prize. If the movement succeeds, and the Legislature adopts the easy conversion plan proposed by the Armstrong Committee, a precedent will be established of incalculable harm to mutual life insurance companies of New York. Each recurring annual meeting will witness a raid by outsiders upon the administration in occupancy, and its success will depend upon the adroitness with which its promoters handle the policyholders, assisted by a purchased press. It is impossible to think of a more potent cause of demoralization in life insurance.

Facts and Opinions.

The **Canada Insurance Investigating Commission** formally opened its proceedings at Ottawa March 7. The chairman, Judge MacTavish, made the following announcement:

The secretary has read the terms of the commission directing this inquiry, which, with the order in council already published, discloses the very wide scope of the investigation now proposed to be held. It must be apparent to everyone that there is an absence of any restriction or limitation of the scope of the inquiry. Nor is there anything omitted therefrom that can at this stage, at all events, be suggested or anticipated. I desire to state on behalf of the commissioners that they appreciate the importance of the matters submitted to them, and the very great responsibility involved in the proper discharge of the duties they have undertaken. The inquiry is, perhaps, unique and exceptional in this regard, that I am not aware of any other inquiry directed by his Excellency in council in recent years wherein so large a proportion of the citizens of the country have a direct and a personal interest. The commissioners have deemed it expedient that counsel be retained in behalf of the Crown to aid in the investigation, and arrangements have been made whereby the services of counsel will be available. We will be glad to have the assistance of counsel on behalf of any interest affected, or likely to be affected, by the investigation. We not only desire but welcome the assistance of persons interested in the prosecution of this inquiry.

Mr. H. T. Ross, of the Nova Scotia bar, has been appointed secretary of the commission. The first business of the commission will be to inquire into the operation of the Dominion insurance laws and how the provisions of such laws have been observed. The commission may sit elsewhere than at Ottawa if it should be necessary.

For some time a number of Western managers have been working on the organization of a combination of companies **to handle surplus line business.** The need for this has been demonstrated by the large amount of surplus insurance going abroad and to Lloyds in this country, and by the fact that very often rates have been cut on this class of business. The new organization is called "The Surplus Line Association," with headquarters in Chicago, and twenty companies, American and foreign, in its membership. Its field of operation for the present will be the Middle States. The following officers have been elected: President, Fred S. James, of the National Fire of Hartford; vice president, J. W. C. Cofran, of the Hartford Fire; secretary and treasurer, Walter H. Sage, of the German American. William Wood, formerly manager of the Palatine, and afterward with the Merchants of Newark and the Anchor, has been made manager. The association will in no sense be a competitor with the regular and duly licensed companies, the local agents or the brokers controlling surplus line risks. It will step in and render assistance only when the eligible line of companies is exhausted. It is reported that the association will be able to carry a line of at least $100,000 on any one risk and $200,000 in any one block.

The **early retirement of Manager Dove,** of the Liverpool and London and Globe, is the subject of a notice in the Manchester *Policyholder*, which says:

We have information from a source which leads us to believe that it is accurate that Mr. J. M. Dove, of the Liverpool and London and Globe, will shortly be retiring from the active direction of the affairs of that company. Mr. Dove is one of the fathers of the profession, his name is an honored name, and he will carry with him into his retirement the good wishes and the respect of all his colleagues. Mr. Dove is the son of the late Mr. Percy M. Dove, who was for many years the well known manager of the Royal insurance company at Liverpool, and he received his early training in that company's head office until the year 1863, when, on the death of his father, and the consequent promotion of Mr. McLaren, the former sub-manager, to the managership, Mr. Dove in his turn took Mr. McLaren's place. Here he remained for five years, until in 1873, on the retirement of Mr. Swinton Boult from the active management of the Liverpool and London and Globe insurance company, and the appointment of Mr. Henry Thompson, the former sub-manager, in his stead, the directors were forced to look round for a new sub-manager, and their choice fell on Mr. Dove. In this capacity he acted for three years, when at the end of that period, in 1876 he was called upon, by the sudden death of Mr. Thompson, to take the whole weight of the management upon himself, a position he has since filled with such conspicuous ability.

At the monthly meeting of the trustees of the New York Life insurance company on Tuesday resolutions were adopted protesting against the recommendation of the Armstrong Committee that **entire boards of trustees of mutual life insurance companies be retired** on November 15 next. The resolutions were introduced by William B. Hornblower, and were as follows:

Resolved, That the board of trustees of the New York Life insurance company believes that it is its duty, on behalf of the policyholders of this company, to enter its protest against so much of the proposed legislation now pending before the Legislature of this State as provides for the election of all members of the board at a single election to be held this year, on the ground that such course is dangerous to the best interests of the policyholders, and that the vast interests at stake ought not to be subjected to the hazard of a single election, especially in a time of great public excitement, and that the proposed legislation is an unnecessarily radical departure from the provisions of the charter of this company, which provides for a gradual change in the membership of the board of trustees from year to year.

Resolved, That Mr. James H. McIntosh, general solicitor of this company, be instructed to attend at the hearing in Albany, fixed for the 15th inst., and present the views of this board on the subject.

A London cable dispatch says that during the British naval manœuvres in May a large number of merchant ships will cooperate with the navy. The fleet will be divided into attacking and defending forces and vessels to act as convoys for merchantmen. So far as the latter are concerned the manœuvres will be kept within ten days. Inquiries are now proceeding in regard to the number of vessels that may be within the sphere of operations during the experiment. The list is not likely to be complete before May, but 250 or 300 vessels are expected to be in the area affected. It is estimated that the manœuvres will cost

£250,000, exclusive of the ordinary maintenance expenses of a fleet at sea. The Admiralty proposes to effect **insurance to the extent of £10,000,000,** and a rate has been offered to underwriters to cover loss by collision or arising from the detention caused by merchantmen being held up by warships. There is no provision for other contingencies. Lloyd's and the marine insurance companies have been asked to accept £5,000,000 risk each. The responses received to the Admiralty's proposition have hitherto been discouraging.

The following paragraph has nothing to do with insurance proper, but much to do with insurance papers, for it sheds light on **the discomfort,** not to say dismay, **that occasionally happens in newspaper offices.** It is from the Bridgeville, Conn, *Tribune:*

Frequently typographical errors creep into newspapers, and the result is often humorous, bringing forth many a laugh, even on serious subjects. The *Tribune* has had more than its share of the blunders of late. Last week "we" got three items "all balled up" in the rush to get out the paper. The effect was startling, and if the *Tribune* had been believed the laws of nature would have had to be suddenly reversed. It was all caused by transposing a couple of lines of type. J. D. Curry, one of our most respected citizens, has been ill for some time with rheumatism. The *Tribune* made the startling statement that as a result of his sickness he had given birth to a 12 pound boy. As a matter of fact that boy belonged over in the home of Samuel Cox. In the item relating to the birth of Mr. and Mrs. Cox's 12 pound boy the *Tribune* said it happened "while the whistle blew." Now, of course, it is possible that a whistle was blowing at the time, but we doubt it. That line referring to the whistle blowing should have been under the item about Riley carrying the dynamite. The *Tribune* sincerely regrets the blunder.

By paying $71,596, the amount to which the capital stock of the **Bankers Life of New York** was impaired, Eugene Van Schaick, counsel, and Henry P. Townsley, president of the Life Association of America, have come into control of the Bankers Life through the Knickerbocker Investment Company, dominated by the two, and the Manhattan Bond Company. Early in January the minority stockholders balked at making good the deficit when the Insurance Department issued an order prohibiting the company from doing business till all arrearages had been made good. All the directors of the old board and the officers resigned at the meeting of Thursday and new ones were chosen to take their places. The new officers are: William Hanhart, president, succeeding H. K. Stokes, a brother of Governor Stokes of New Jersey, and J. B. Dougherty, Jr., treasurer. The two retiring trustees are Foster M. Voorhees, ex-Governor of New Jersey, and William Sherer, manager of the City Clearing House Association. The company has $23,000,000 of outstanding insurance.

Concerning the accusations against him by Andrew Hamilton that he was cognizant of all the "yellow dog" transactions of the New York Life in the past ten or more years, **William B. Hornblower** said on Thursday:

I know nothing whatever of Judge Hamilton's transactions, other than that he was acting for the company in a legal capacity. That he had received moneys for so called real estate accounts, legislative matters and other matters for which he never accounted, I had no knowledge whatsoever. So far as Judge Hamilton states or implies that I disbursed any legislative funds during the Beers administration, his statements or implications are absolutely untrue. My professional relation to the Beers administration was entirely confined to litigation and legal advice. I never even appeared before a legislative committee but once, so far as I can recall, and then simply to make an argument before the Insurance Committee in opposition to a pending bill. Not one dollar of the company's money ever passed through my hands for legislative or any other purposes. So far as Judge Hamilton states or implies that I was aware of his disbursing moneys for the company or receiving moneys not accounted for, as found by the Fowler committee, such statements or implications are absolutely untrue.

The Mutual Life of New York has secured an important decision in Chicago affecting the right of the policyholder **to claim a larger proportion of surplus** than is allotted by the company on the settlement of his policy. The *Journal of Commerce* says:

Leo Fox, a Chicago merchant, having a $50,000 ordinary life policy with fifteen year distribution, was dissatisfied with the settlement given him under the distribution plan, and sued to recover a larger amount. The settlement offered him by the company would have given him a dividend of 33 per cent. in cash on the premiums paid in, or over 50 per cent. in additional insurance. Judge Mack, who heard the case, held that the complainant was not entitled to a reformation of the contract, as he had been guilty of laches. The contract being similar to that in the Grief case, carried up from New York, the complainant cannot insist on an accounting. If the complainant had any right of action against the company it could be asserted in a lawsuit. This suit would depend upon his ability to show that the company had paid some other insurant in the same class a larger distribution. Judge Mack held that the contract provided that the apportionment of the company should be binding and final.

The *Spectator* prints complete tables showing **financial standing and business in 1905** of all the legal reserve life insurance companies in the United States. These are the enormous aggregates for the year ending December 31, 1905:

New business paid for in 1905—	
Ordinary	$1,749,923,510
Industrial	650,175,369
Total	$2,400,098,879
Whole amount in force at end of year—	
Ordinary	$11,056,241,596
Industrial	2,304,356,490
Total	$13,370,598,086

Fraternal orders and assessment companies wrote about $1,200,000,000 in 1905 and had about $8,000,000,000 of insurance in force at the end of the year.

Why have your fire insurance in English companies? American fire insurance companies cannot do business in England, because an Englishman will not patronize them. Why should an American citizen insure in an English company, when American companies are the strongest? Of the four companies whose reports show a surplus to United States policyholders exceeding $7,000,000—none are foreign. Encourage home industries by patronizing them, same as the English people do in their country.

The above **appears on postal cards,** a large number of which were put in circulation in New York last week. It is probably the composition of some former subject of King Edward from the "green isle." But neither do the English drink American whiskey, while Americans consume quantities of "Scotch," London gin and bitter beer. We have heard from persons who use them that they are, like the English insurance companies "in our midst," pretty good stuff.

In the Canadian Senate on March 15 Mr. Cloran introduced an order to inquire in reference to the **Mutual Reserve;**

If the accounts of the attorney and of the insurance expert employed by the special committee, which was appointed by order of this House to investigate into the affairs in Canada of the Mutual Reserve Life Association of New York, and which have been certified to as regular and legal, on order of the said committee, by its chairman, have been yet paid, either in full or in part? If not paid in full, why not? If paid in part, when will the said attorney and expert receive the balance of their accounts?

Also to inquire if the Government is aware of the arrest of Frederick A. Burnham, George D. Eldridge and George Burnham in New York on charges of felony, which were based largely on the results of the parliamentary investigation had by the Senate two years ago.

The New York Court of Appeals has affirmed the judgment of the lower courts in favor of the defendants in the case of Kirkpatrick vs. the Allemannia of Pittsburgh. This case arose from the **loss of the Abbey Press,** at 114 Fifth avenue, New York city, February 7, 1903. The opinion sustains the decisions of the lower courts, which have all been in favor of the defendants. The companies claimed arson as defense for not paying the loss, and this affirmation by the court of last resort disposes of all the cases involved in the River Head litigation. The amount involved was $10,000, out of an

adjusted loss of $33,000. The other cases have already been dismissed.

Iowa fire insurance loss ratios for 1905 were unusually high, as the Sioux City losses at the end of the year were paid in 1905, and the average losses were above the normal. The average loss ratio of Union companies was 97 per cent., non-Union 76 per cent., Iowa stock companies 39 per cent. and Iowa mutuals 51 per cent. The average for all companies, including the mutuals, was 68 per cent., an increase of 20 per cent. over 1904. The non-Union companies made the largest gain in premiums, getting $211,000 of the total premium increase of $275,000; the Iowa stock companies increased their receipts $60,000, the Des Moines, Hawkeye and Farmers leading.

A new law in Wisconsin regulating the **issuance of certificates on grain** by private elevators is producing complications for the fire insurance companies. The private elevators formerly issued grain certificates and used them as collateral at banks for borrowing money. These certificates are now barred, and the private elevators, in order to make loans, are compelled to give the banks chattel mortgages on the grain. Insurance companies are asked to allow permission for these chattel mortgages, but fear that in the absence of any State inspection an elevator may secure mortgages on grain in excess of actual values.

The general agency of **Trezevant & Cochran**, at Dallas, Tex., celebrated its thirtieth anniversary last week. It sent out a statement showing net premiums for the thirty years of $18,122,507 and losses paid of $10,455,026, a loss ratio of 57.4 per cent. At the beginning J. T. Dargan, now president of the Atlanta-Birmingham Fire, was head of the firm, but Mr. Trezevant has been with it from the start. The Fire Association, the first company to join the general agency, presented the firm with a beautiful loving cup, suitably inscribed. The general agency now represents thirteen companies, with fifteen field men and eighty office employees.

As a handsome reminder of the foundation of the **Pittsburgh branch of the Equitable Life** twenty-five ago this week, Manager Edward A. Woods has presented thirty-four of his agents with silver medals suitably engraved. Each bears the picture of Mr. Woods in relief form and a suitable inscription, while the reverse has a group of figures, under which is the motto, "Not for a day, but for all time." The Pittsburgh agency was started a quarter of a century ago by Dr. George Woods, chancellor of the Western University of Pennsylvania and father of the present manager, who conducted it for about ten years.

The committee of fifteen of the **National Convention of Insurance Commissioners** will meet at the Palmer House, Chicago, next Tuesday and consider the insurance legislation. The committee will arrange for the completion of its report to the convention, which will assemble next September. The committee may employ parties to prepare a new insurance code, or may request the committee on uniform laws to draft desirable laws, or may subdivide the committee into divisions and each division take up the drafting of laws covering a certain phase of the general subject in hand.

At the annual meeting of the **New York Fire Insurance Exchange** this week the annual report of the treasurer showed a large surplus. The president and vice president of the Exchange were re-elected. Secretary and Treasurer George Jeremiah read a letter withdrawing his candidacy for re-election because of objections raised in regard to his being a broker. The matter was laid over. It was decided that the committee of the Exchange on investigation should meet the committee on economics and improvements of the New York Board and confer as to joint action.

The United States Court of Appeals at St. Louis has decided in favor of the Ætna Life in the **Whitfield suicide case.** Mr. Whitfield, who was a well known sporting editor in Kansas City, committed suicide in 1902. He carried an accident policy for $5,000, it containing a clause providing that in case of suicide the heirs would receive but $500. Mrs. Whitfield refused to accept this settlement and brought suit for the full amount, setting up the Missouri law against making suicide a defense under an insurance policy. The company's contract has been upheld.

The **State Life insurance company** of Indianapolis had a very prosperous growth last year. Its assets were increased from $3,160,083 to $4,126,682, its surplus from $544,585 to $605,317, its income from $2,244,033 to $2,729,911, and its insurance in force from $60,148,994 to $74,440,588. The company has made great progress since 1895, when its assets were but $18,000 and its insurance in force $3,550,000. A similar ratio of increase in the next ten years will put it at the head of the life insurance companies of its geographical section.

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals at Boston recently rendered a decision reversing the decree of the District Court of Massachusetts in the case of the schooner John T. Williams vs. the fishing schooner Metamora. The higher court found that each was equally **to blame for a collision** in which the Williams was sunk off Plum Island December 9, 1904. The case was remanded to the District Court with direction to apportion to each party one-half the damages and interest and one-half the costs of the District Court.

The agitation over life insurance during 1905 had a damaging effect upon the business of many companies outside of the big ones directly under fire. The annual statement of **life insurance business in Michigan** shows that of fifty-three legal reserve companies operating in the State twenty-nine wrote less insurance in 1905 than they did in 1904. That there was considerable lapsing among all the companies is evidenced by the fact that thirteen companies closed the year with less insurance in force than they began it.

Fifteen general agents of casualty and surety companies operating in Indiana organized on Saturday last at Indianapolis the **Indiana State Association of Casualty and Surety Underwriters.** Officers elected were: President, H. H. Lovell, Casualty Company of America and Title Guaranty and Surety; vice president, George W. Pangborn, Frankfort and Metropolitan Surety; secretary, William H. Drapier, National Surety; treasurer, E. V. Clark, American Surety.

The **Chesapeake Life insurance company** of Maryland is seeking a charter from the present Legislature of that State. Some 1,000 shares of a par value of $100 each comprise the capital stock, with the privilege of increasing to a round million. A general life insurance business will be transacted. The incorporators are C. G. Joyner, Edgar H. Donaldson, Telfair W. Marriott, W. Lewis Rowe, Ira F. Randolph and W. Thomas Kemp.

A unique feature of the annual banquet of the **Life Underwriters' Association of Nebraska**, on March 3, was the representation of an interview between an insurance canvasser and

a man solicited to take out a policy. A member of the organization went after his victim armed with the proper credentials of the "Ideal Life insurance company" and a letter of introduction from Grover Cleveland.

In the British House of Lords on March 9 the Earl of Onslow, Conservative, gave notice of his intention to question the Government as to whether, in view of the disclosures made regarding certain American insurance companies, it proposes to compel **foreign companies doing business in Great Britain** to keep in this country a sufficient proportion of their securities to cover the claims of British policyholders.

To avoid paying State taxes of $70,000 on its $3,000,000 reserve the **Woodmen of the World** will move from Omaha, Neb., before April 1. A permanent home has not been decided on, but Council Bluffs, Cedar Rapids and Dubuque, Ia., also Fort Worth, Tex., are in the "Barkus is willing" class. The Royal Highlanders and Woodmen Circle will leave Nebraska for the same reason.

The **Montgomery Life Underwriters' Association** has been organized in the capital city of Alabama. The following officers and executive committee have been elected: Ivey W. Gregory, president; G. G. Miles, first vice president; J. W. Terry, second vice president; W. E. Dow, secretary-treasurer; executive committee, J. L. Harris, B. J. Weil, E. G. Branch, W. I. Whiteman, L. Strauss.

The amount of **rate cutting** which is **going on in the West** is being revealed by recent losses. The destruction of the Kenyon Military Academy at Gambier, Ohio, shows that a portion of the line was written by Union and other companies at a cut rate, while the later loss on the opera house at Des Moines showed that much of the insurance was placed at a cut of 50 per cent.

There will be no changes in the office force of the **Pennsylvania Insurance Department.** Samuel W. McCulloch will remain as deputy commissioner and R. E. Foster as actuary. The Attorney General has in preparation equity proceedings against the former Insurance Commissioners and J. Clayton Erb for the recovery of actuaries' fees received by them.

The settlement of the policy for $5,000 in the Mutual Life of New York on the life of **the late Marshall Field,** of Chicago, was an interesting one. He took it out at age twenty-eight, and the estate was paid $7,719 on account of accrued dividends. He had surrendered some of the earlier dividends for cash or the return would have been $9,384.

Much solicitude is felt among insurance people in New York about the condition of Mr. **Edson S. Lott,** secretary and general manager of the United States Casualty Company. He is critically ill with pleuro-pneumonia, and the latest accounts from his bedside yesterday afternoon were not favorable. The critical period is expected today.

Notice of the intention of James A. Wylie, of Newark; Daniel Woodcock and Joseph Faulkner, of Brooklyn, and others to organize the **Peoples Fire insurance company of New York,** for the purpose of making insurance of property under the provisions of Section 110, Article 3, of the insurance law of New York, has been published.

Legal notice has been published of the intention of Pendennis White, J. J. McKelvey and others to form a fire insurance corporation in the city of New York, to be known as the **Adirondack Fire insurance company,** which will do a general fire, inland marine and tornado insurance business.

At a meeting on Thursday the directors of the **Fame insurance company** of Philadelphia elected William Muir president, Louis S. Amonson vice president, and E. R. Danneis secretary. The home office of the company is being transferred to the Union Building, Third and Walnut streets.

Local agents in the larger cities have found so much advantage from being closely associated in a single building that a number of **insurance men of Louisville** are considering the organization of a company to erect a **modern office building** for the exclusive use of the insurance men.

The combination known as the **Southern Underwriters,** and comprising three Mississippi companies, the Fire Association, Mississippi Home and Merchants Union, which issued a joint policy, has been dissolved. The Merchants Union has taken over the bulk of the business.

The persons who have been promoting the organization of the **First National insurance company** of New York have abandoned the project for want of sufficient encouragement. The company was to do a number of novel things in insurance in addition to health and accident insurance.

The **Northwestern Fire and Marine of Minneapolis** has been incorporated under the laws of Minnesota with $200,000 capital. The company was first incorporated at Grand Forks, N. Dak., but removed to Minneapolis this year and continues as a Minnesota company.

At a meeting on March 9 of the stockholders of the **Mississippi Fire Association,** a Jackson, Miss., corporation engaged in writing fire insurance several years past, it was voted to go out of business. The Hartford Fire has taken over its risks.

The Texas Insurance Department has officially pronounced the following Chicago concerns of the Lloyds pattern to be **wildcats:** Firemens Fire Underwriters, Queen City Underwriters and Northern Fire Underwriters.

All general agency fire insurance companies have now responded favorably to the request of the National Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents that **overhead writing** shall be discouraged.

A bill in the Rhode Island Legislature provides for an increase of the capital stock of the **Equitable Fire and Marine** of Providence from $400,000 to $500,000.

To write surplus lines the **India Mutual** of Boston will soon enter New York city, with Sewall & Alden managers for the metropolitan district.

The national convention of 1906 of the **Travelers insurance company** will be held at Hotel Frontenac, Thousand Islands, on September 11, 12 and 13.

The **United Surety Company** of Baltimore has been admitted to Massachusetts to transact a surety and burglary insurance business.

A majority of the stock of the **Peter Cooper Fire insurance company** of New York has been purchased by interests identi-

fied with Crum & Forster. The company will continue to be operated in the North River office as heretofore.

The **Metropolitan Surety** has entered Connecticut to write surety, fidelity and burglary lines.

The sessions of the **Western Union** next month at Atlanta will be held at the Piedmont.

A **lumber fire insurance company** is talked of at Fitchburg, Mass., with $300,000 capital.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Central Accident: R. T. Hoffman & Co., Boston, general agents for Massachusetts.

Connecticut Fire: J. V. Richards, special agent for Kentucky and Tennessee; I. H. Odell, of Evansville, State agent for Indiana.

Eagle Fire of New York: George W. Jalonick, general agent for Texas.

German of Pittsburgh: H. H. Ingalls, late of the German National, State agent for Illinois and Indiana.

Jefferson Fire of Philadelphia: Montgomery & Funkhouser, of Chicago, general agents for Illinois and Missouri.

London Assurance Corporation: Charles W. Sexton, Minneapolis, Minn.

Massachusetts Mutual Accident: C. W. Sawyer, assistant superintendent agency department, succeeding H. A. Harding, resigned, and formerly manager of the industrial department.

Milwaukee Mechanics: D. T. Smith, special agent for southern Illinois.

National Union of Pittsburgh: C. M. Humison, of Ada, Minn., special agent for the Dakotas and Minnesota.

Phœnix of Hartford: W. H. Springer, Des Moines, Ia., transferred from Wilcox, Howell & Hopkins.

Queen: R. C. Harrison, special agent, with headquarters in Georgia; S. Y. Tupper, Jr., special agent for South Carolina and Florida, beginning April 1.

Security Life and Trust of Philadelphia: H. W. Hannum, general agent in Colorado, Wyoming and New Mexico, with headquarters at Denver.

Spring Garden of Philadelphia: Edward Brown & Son, of San Francisco, general agents for the Pacific Coast, succeeding Dickson & Thieme.

Transatlantic of Hamburg and Ohio German: W. M. Umbenstock & Co., Chicago, Ill.

Union Central Life: William H. Drennan, general agent at Kansas City, Mo.

Mayor Dunne of Chicago has not yet given up his fondness for the double platoon system in the fire department, and is trying to divert some of the funds secured by the new $1,000 saloon license to that experiment. Fire underwriters have no objection to the double platoon if the city can pay for all that it involves; but they do object to having the department weakened, or needed improvements postponed, to indulge this fad.

Mr. Howard Grenell, assistant manager of the Western department of the Atlas of London at Chicago, died there on March 9 from valvular disease of the heart. He was fifty-two years old. Mr. Grenell was formerly a local fire insurance agent at Minneapolis, and afterward was special agent for the Merchants of Newark in the Northwestern field. He had been with the Atlas eleven years.

Ex-Auditor David A. Sherrick of Indiana was on Thursday found guilty at Indianapolis of embezzlement. He was tried on indictments charging misuse of $127,000 belonging to the State. He resigned on the demand of the Governor, and the money has since been paid back to the State treasury.

Mr. Oliver Williams, general Western agent for the Northwestern Mutual Life, located at Denver, Col., died March 3 from heart trouble in Pasadena, Cal. He had been with the Northwestern in Colorado for twenty years, and was very well known.

Mr. L. E. Umstead, for three years past with the Equitable Life in Pittsburgh, has been appointed general agent there for the personal accident and health insurance lines of the United States Casualty Company of New York.

Gen. Louis Fitzgerald, chairman of the finance committee of the Equitable Life, who was absent from New York during the sessions of the Armstrong Investigating Committee, returned from abroad this week.

Mr. S. A. Barclay, recently chief examiner in the Western department of the Delaware and Reliance, has been made examiner of Western business at the home office of the National Union of Pittsburgh.

Mr. Frank K. Kohler, formerly metropolitan general agent of the John Hancock Mutual Life in New York, has been appointed agency director of the Great Eastern Casualty and Indemnity Company.

Col. William L. White, of Grand Rapids, Mich., has been elected third vice president of the Federal Life of Chicago. As superintendent of agencies he will have charge of all the field work.

Mr. Oscar Ricketts, foreman of the Government Printing Office, has resigned to become agent at Washington, D. C., of the Union Central Life of Cincinnati.

Mr. William L. Essmann, a former chief clerk in the Wisconsin Insurance Department, has been appointed special agent of the United States Casualty Company.

Mr. Frank T. Short, an agent of the Canada Life at Syracuse, N. Y., died March 7 at his home from liver trouble. He was fifty-four years old.

Mr. Boardman C. Frost, a prominent fire underwriter of Oswego, N. Y., died there March 10, aged sixty-two years.

Mr. A. C. Washburn, late of the Metropolitan Life, succeeds Lucius McAdam as actuary of the Hartford Life.

Mr. Charles G. Macklin has resigned as special agent of the German of Pittsburgh in Illinois.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

A bill has been introduced in the Senate by Mr. Saunders to exempt from taxation the accumulations and funds of fraternal orders.

Kentucky.

Senate Bill No. 10, fathered by Mr. Watson, and providing for a State fire marshal, has passed the House.

Maryland.

The bill of Mr. Lehmayer has been advanced to a third reading in the House. It provides that life insurance companies must distribute their surplus every five years.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., March 13.—A conference was held today in the council chamber between the insurance committee of the Legislature and the special commission appointed by Governor Guild to recodify the insurance laws. The committee will go on and hold hearings on small matters, and wait for the large ones until the commission shall have come to some decision what course to follow. By a letter of Governor Guild to the commission, they are expected to consider all the pertinent topics in the Armstrong report, and all which were considered at the insurance meeting in Chicago, besides such other points as they think important. These very great powers make the situation uncertain, and it is likely that the large matters will not be reported upon till late in the session.

BOSTON, Mass., March 13.—The Committee on Insurance this morning gave a hearing on the petition of Fred S. Elwell for legislation to require life insurance companies to keep separate accounts and file separate statements of ordinary life and industrial insurance. Mr. Elwell said it is simply a business proposition, and a company doing two distinct kinds of business should file separate statements of each kind. He read a letter from Louis D. Brandeis in support of the bill.

Colonel Rand, vice president of the John Hancock Company, said such a division would mean the establishment of a rich man's company and a poor man's company. William F. Smith, the actuary of the company, explained the system now in vogue by which the companies divide their surplus among the different kinds of business and pay their dividends. The hearing was closed.

The committee also heard arguments on the bill of James W. Barry, to require all companies to make their annual reports to the Insurance Commissioner and to policyholders containing an itemized account of all the salaries paid by them during the preceding year to their officers and agents. Mr. Barry spoke in favor of the bill.

Mr. Reginald Foster opposed the bill on the ground that it would entail too much expense on the policyholders, and said that the Insurance Commissioner now has the authority to compel companies to furnish the information if he thinks it necessary. The hearing was closed.

BOSTON, Mass., March 15.—The Insurance Committee gave hearings today on two bills, among others (House Nos. 467 and 611) to prevent fire insurance companies from combining to fix

rates, and the chief incident was the appearance of Osborne Howes, secretary of the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters, in opposition, arguing at length against the bill and giving much comfort to some of the committee by saying that State management of the companies would tend to promote monopoly. At present there is some competition. No decision was reached by the committee.

New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., March 13.—Senator Colby was beaten today in his fight against Senator Dryden, on his resolution for an investigation of the Prudential insurance company. By a vote of 12 to 5 the Senate adopted the adverse report of the judiciary committee.

The contention of Senator Hillery, chairman of the committee, was that there was no reason for the investigation, and no demand for it outside of the Colby forces. This Mr. Colby denied.

"Why is it no one can get a statement of the collateral of the Fidelity Trust?" was one of the questions Mr. Colby first asked.

"Ex-Governor Griggs told you why at the hearing," replied Mr. Hillery. "He says that the collateral held for loans by the people who borrowed from the bank is a matter with which the State Commissioner of Banking and Insurance should deal, and I think he is right."

The Massachusetts commissioner, Mr. Colby said, did not ask the New Jersey commissioner for names of any of the Fidelity's borrowers; his question wholly respected the character of the securities.

"Seventy per cent. of all policies that the Prudential has written have lapsed," said Mr. Colby, "and there is an absolute demand for an investigation of the business conducted on that plan."

Chairman Hillery said that no one had communicated with the committee urging a favorable report of the resolution; in fact no one had taken interest enough in the resolution to communicate one way or the other. "I was convinced, as chairman of that committee," he said, "that absolutely no cause was shown at the time of the hearing why an investigation should be held."

The final vote was 12 to 5. Those voting with Mr. Colby were Horner and Shinn, Republicans, and Price and Martens, Democrats. Lee and Wakelee, Republicans, and Cornish and Minturn, Democrats, did not vote.

The Governor has signed Senate Bill No. 34, providing that the tax paid to any firemen's relief association by fire insurance companies shall be considered the 2 per cent. required to be paid under the law, and that no tax shall be paid on reinsurance when it was paid on the original premium.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 13.—The Assembly Committee on Taxation today reported favorably on House Bill 253, amending the tax law so as to subject to taxation the personal property of any corporation, person, company or association transacting the business of fire, casualty or surety insurance in this State equal in value to the unearned premiums required by the law of this State or the regulations of the Insurance Department, to be charged as a liability.

Senator Keenan has introduced Senate Bill 649, amending the insurance law so as to provide for a new form of standard fire insurance policy.

Senator Riordan's bill "to regulate the publication of printed or written reports and statements in reference to the financial condition of life and fire insurance companies in the State of New York, and the value of stock and securities held or owned by said companies, and for other purposes," is his bill of last year but so amended as to make it inapplicable to "magazines, weekly, tri-weekly or monthly publications that have been in business for at least ten years." There are also two other changes. The old bill required a publication which printed the matter in question to have a paid up capital stock of $200,000. In the new bill the requirement is made "assets over liabilities of at least $100,000." The old bill required a deposit with the Insurance Superintendent of $200,000. This has now been reduced to $50,000. Any violation of the act is to be deemed a misdemeanor, and the misdemeanant is subject to imprisonment not to exceed one year, and a fine not to exceed $10,000.

Mr. Lewis has introduced in the Senate a bill, No. 581, amending the laws relative to mutual benefit fraternities. The provisions refer to amending the constitution, conventions, election of delegates, compensation of officers, etc.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 15.—The one feature of interest this week in legislative insurance circles had to do with the developments at the continuation of the hearing before the joint legislative committee on the Armstrong bills. The attendance, while large, was by no means as big as that of a week ago. It is not expected that any of the bills will get before the Legislature for debate before early next month.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 16.—Assemblyman Dowling has introduced a bill providing that the Superintendent of Insurance shall appoint a supervising agent who shall collect 7½ per cent. of the gross premiums of all fire insurance policies, and pay 3 per cent. of the proceeds thus received to the treasurer of the Volunteer Firemen's Association for the use of the Volunteer Firemen's Home at Hudson, N. Y.

The Senate Insurance Committee has favorably reported Senator Brackett's bill repealing Section 56 of the insurance law, and Senator Fitzgerald's bill relative to the power of title guarantee companies.

Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 14.—Senator Ward has introduced Senate Bill No. 235, providing that newspapers shall be paid $2 for publishing the annual statement of an insurance company, as required by law, and that if the newspaper designated by the State Insurance Superintendent in any county as the one in which the statements are to be printed will not publish the statement for that sum the company may insert it in some other paper.

Senator Harper has introduced a bill providing that surety premiums on bonds of public officers shall be paid out of the public treasury.

A bill providing for the annual distribution of the surplus, present and future, of life insurance companies has been introduced by Representative Stewart. It is based on the Armstrong Committee bill in New York.

Senator Harper's bill, No. 179, providing penalties against "wildcat" companies, has passed the Senate.

A bill has been introduced by Senator Ward providing that insurance companies may loan surplus funds on ninety-nine year leases.

The Senate Committee on Insurance has indefinitely postponed the bill of Senator Arbentz, No. 93, providing that all insurance adjusters must live in the counties where the losses to be adjusted have occurred.

Senator Harper's bill, No. 181, providing that where a foreign mutual fire insurance company has failed to file the waiver provided by Section 3,657 service may be secured on any member of the company, has passed the Senate.

Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., March 15.—The legislative session of 1906 was adjourned sine die today, and only a single insurance measure got through both houses. This was House Bill No. 176

creating a Bureau of Insurance, and defining its duties and powers.

Col. Joseph Button, clerk of the Senate, was elected Insurance Commissioner at a salary of $3,500 per annum for a term of four years from July 1, 1896. Colonel Button will shortly visit States having up to date insurance departments, for the purpose of familiarizing himself with his new work.

There were numerous bills offered in both houses, but they were killed either in committees or in one branch or the other. Among these were bills re-enacting the Wharton Anti-Compact law; abolishing the three-fourths value clause in fire policies; making the amount set out in a fire policy prima facie evidence of the value of the property insured; requiring companies when securing charters to enter into bond with approved security of $10,000 that they will deposit bonds with the treasurer as required by law; and requiring life insurance companies doing business in Virginia to annually pay dividends on their profits to shareholders. These were all that were offered of public interest, and several of them caused sharp fights.

The South Eastern Tariff Association is now doing business as usual, with no prospects of being disturbed for two years, unless there shall be an extra session, which is altogether unlikely.

Miscellany.

The Legislative Life Insurance Hearings at Albany.

(Special Report.)

There have been many gatherings of insurance men in this country and other countries, but it is safe to say that none have been composed of more distinguished representatives of the business than that which attended the hearing before the Armstrong Legislative Investigating Committee at Albany on Thursday of last week. Nor has there been a meeting of more importance to the life insurance business. The bills introduced by the Armstrong Committee contain so much that will radically change the conditions of the life insurance business in its relations to policyholders if they are made into laws, that all classes of life companies, whether domestic, other States or of foreign countries, feel forced to take some action to advise the Legislature against danger points.

Among the persons representative of the business present were: Presidents Morton, of the Equitable; Orr, of the New York Life; Peabody, of the Mutual Life; Dunham, of the Travelers; DeBoer, of the National Life of Vermont; Holcombe, of the Phœnix Mutual Life; Woodruff, of the Provident Savings Life, and Tatlock, of the Washington Life; Vice Presidents Ashbrook, of the Provident Life and Trust; English, of the Ætna Life; Noyes, of the Northwestern National; Brown, of the Columbian National; Lunger, of the Travelers, and Eldridge, of the Mutual Reserve. The prominent actuaries present were Messrs. McClintock, of the Mutual Life; Barker, of the Penn Mutual Life; Weeks, of the New York Life and president of the Actuarial Society of America; Rhodes, of the Mutual Benefit; Sartelle, of the State Mutual of Worcester; Loveland, of the Northwestern Mutual; Pierson, ex-president of the Actuarial Society, and Dawson, the consulting actuary for the Armstrong Committee.

Other officials of life companies present were Messrs. Marshall, secretary of the Union Central Life; Garrigue, of the Penn Mutual; Evans, of the Northwestern Mutual, and Brown, of the Columbian National. Among the attorneys were Messrs. McKeen, of the Armstrong Committee; Hornblower, of the New York Life, and Lindabury, of the Prudential insurance company.

The most imposing feature of the meeting was the marching in in a body of the delegations of agents from New York city and Buffalo, numbering a thousand or more, and filling every spare nook and corner of the Assembly Chamber that were not taken up by the officials of companies. Standing room only was the order of the day long before the hearing was opened by Chairman Armstrong. In his remarks the chairman said that he wished to remove any impression that might exist that the committee was not as anxious to hear as the companies to be heard. It was glad to welcome them to assist the committee in perfecting this legislation. It invited criticism and every suggestion that could be made. It wanted facts. All were here on a serious business, and the assistance of every right minded man present who had any suggestion to offer would have full consideration—all could profit by the discussion of the important questions. None need spare any recommendation nor omit any criticism, and the committee would sit as long as necessary.

He then stated that as some proper arrangements were necessary to economize time, ex-Lieut. Governor Woodruff, president of the Provident Savings Life, had been asked to take charge of the proceedings. Mr. Woodruff outlined the proposed program briefly, saying that the presidents of the large companies would first be called upon, and they would be followed by the actuaries and other company officials. The 18,000 or more agents in the State would also be properly represented by a committee, and a final summing up would be by the Hon. William B. Hornblower. Mr. Woodruff spoke of the magnitude of the life insurance business in this country and the vast financial resources of the companies in comparison with the deposits of national banks. He then introduced President Morton, of the Equitable Life, as the first speaker.

Mr. Morton opposed the proposed prohibition of the ownership of collateral trust bonds. He declared that insurance companies should have the same freedom in investments as heretofore, with certain necessary qualifications. He stated the amount that the life insurance companies of the State of New York had invested in the securities to be prohibited—the amount in collateral loans, railroad stocks and bank and trust company stocks, and said that the companies should be allowed to retain such of these investments as are sound and avoid thus creating any of the evils which the committee are endeavoring to remedy. He claimed that if the companies were forced to market the stock and collateral bond holding, of which he gave a schedule, it could only be done at a great loss, and the proceeds could not be replaced in other well secured investments that would bring in as high a rate of interest. He showed the effects of forcing a large amount of such securities upon the market within five years, and the advantage of keeping investments in stocks of such a character that they could quickly be converted into cash should an emergency arise. He deprecated life insurance companies holding controlling interests in bank and trust companies, and held that they should not be permitted to retain more than 20 per cent. of the stock of any one bank or trust company, and that the further purchase of such securities should be prohibited. He did believe in standard forms of policies, but as to the amount of new business, at least enough should be written to make good the total amount of lapses from whatever causes. Mr. Morton added that the limiting the contingent reserve to 2 per cent. was a menace to the safety of policyholders; and the proposed limit on the cost of new business was unwise. There should be some limit, but that proposed would paralyze the business.

President Orr, of the New York Life, was then called upon and said, in part, that he had been connected with the life insurance business but a few weeks, and he did not represent his company with any feeling of captiousness toward the Armstrong Committee or the bills which it had formulated. Much of the proposed legislation had his cordial approval. He commended the statement of the chairman that it was the purpose of the committee to build up, not to tear down, the insurance interests of the State. He would confine his remarks to suggestions of changes in the bills under consideration which he believed were absolutely necessary. If the bill affecting new business became a

law the business of his company would suddenly be cut in one-half. Such a law should not be put into effect immediately. The companies should have the opportunity to comply with it gradually, so that the large force of employees might have time to adjust themselves to the new conditions.

Mr. Peabody, president of the Mutual Life, said that he had a high appreciation of the valuable work accomplished by the committee. The entire country was watching this impending legislation. The bills were of human construction, however, and mistakes might be made. There were three or four things in the bills as they now stand that could not fail to do permanent harm. He was new to the business and would not attempt to criticise the committee, which had spent months of patient labor on the problem, but there were older officers and actuaries who could speak on the subject. He cautioned the committee, however, against interfering with the management of companies domiciled in other States, as it would involve the whole question in difficulties and disasters.

Mr. Ide, president of the Home Life, spoke in behalf of his own and several other smaller New York companies. He was in accord with the underlying spirit of the bills, but they were too revolutionary in their character. The insurance laws of the State of New York were the result of many years' development. Under those laws the larger life insurance companies have grown to their present size. He gave a clear and concise analysis of Section 87 of the bill which regulates a contingent reserve, and claimed that the application of its conditions would lessen the confidence of the policyholders in a company, as it would cause a fluctuating dividend. The effect would be ruinous.

Mr. Van Cise, actuary of the Equitable Life, said that he was a man of figures rather than words, but he appeared to protest against Section 83. He made a vigorous defense of the deferred dividend policy, saying that it was no more of a gambling policy, as often claimed, than was the annual dividend policy. The contract of the annual dividend policy does not guarantee what it will pay, while in the deferred dividend contract the amount is fixed. As to the estimates in the deferred dividend policy made twenty years ago not being realized, he said it was the same with the annual dividend policies. This result had come from natural causes—reduction in income from investments, increased taxation, competition in business and other causes. All estimates were reduced as soon as it was found they could not be realized—there was no intent to mislead. He said that thirty years ago one-half of the companies in the United States became bankrupt through mismanagement, and they were all annual dividend companies. They might have been saved had they been deferred dividend companies. It is important to have a surplus, and the deferred dividend provides that surplus. Don't strike down the plan, for it provides the most equitable division of the surplus. He objected to the policyholder knowing the annual surplus—he preferred an accounting at the end of the first five years, and thereafter annually. The proposed legislation would destroy a large army of agents, and take away insurance from those who will only take it on the deferred dividend plan. All that was asked is justice. Don't put a brand npon the millions of deferred dividend policies now in force. Do not deny the freedom of contract.

Mr. Moir, actuary of the Provident Savings Life, followed Mr. Van Cise. He took up the question of the distribution of surplus, and said that there was more danger of the companies distributing too much surplus than too little. He spoke very forcibly against publishing lists of policyholders, and scored twisting as a most dishonest business.

The hearing was then adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

The afternoon session began promptly at 2 o'clock. Mr. Woodruff called upon Mr. Gore, the actuary of the Prudential insurance company. He took up Section 83 and argued that it would seriously affect, if not destroy, companies writing a participating business, although, of course, it was not so intended.

Mr. McClintock, actuary of the Mutual Life, opposed the limitation of expenses, but admitted that for many years he had been in favor of limiting the growth of companies. The object of Section 98 was to reduce the cost of business to the policyholder. Under the proposed plan the company would have to figure in advance the cost of new business, which was an impossibility. Should the company officials make an error and the cost be more than was figured they would be liable to imprisonment for committing a misdemeanor. No man appreciated the agent more than he, and good agents should be upheld. He said that any limitation imposed arbitrarily would cramp the companies and so increase the cost of business. To reduce cost to policyholders would induce competition among companies by paying them larger dividends. If any limitation was to be put on new business it must be so that people can understand what is meant. They cannot understand the bill. He then explained how companies differ in figuring the expenses of new business, and suggested that 110 per cent. of the first year's premiums would be an equitable cost, he advocating advertising for the benefit of live agents.

Mr. William C. Johnson, general agent of the Phœnix Mutual Life in New York city, spoke on behalf of the agents and against proposed Section 98. He strongly denounced limiting renewal commissions to four years, and believed that fifteen years would be a reasonable time. It was against public policy for the State to arbitrarily fix the compensation that any corporation should pay its agents in developing its business. He believed that publicity and strict accountability would remedy any evils of extravagance in securing new business.

Mr. R. V. Lindabury, the general solicitor of the Prudential, spoke in behalf of all the companies of other States, and of the injustice of putting the same restrictions upon them as upon home companies in purchasing real estate. He claimed that New York State had no right to insist that out of State companies shall comply with the laws it makes for its own companies as to the issuing of participating or non-participating policies. Such action was against the comity that has always existed between States.

Mr. Sartelle, actuary of the State Mutual Life of Worcester, confined his objections mostly to the committee's proposition affecting cash surrender values, stating that his State, Massachusetts, made it obligatory upon all companies chartered in the State to give cash surrender values, and every policy must so specify. Under such conditions Massachusetts companies could not do business in New York State in compliance with the provisions of the proposed bill.

Mr. Holcombe, president of the Phœnix Mutual Life, and Mr. Barker, actuary of the Penn Mutual Life, were the concluding speakers of the afternoon session.

The evening session was begun by Mr. Weeks, actuary of the New York Life. He pointed out the difficulties in the way of the standardization of policies, and showed that a New York standard policy would not be an interstate policy—that many disadvantages would arise under such a law.

Mr. Welch, vice president and actuary of the Phœnix Mutual Life, followed Mr. Weeks and argued about the defects in the sections governing surrender values and lapsed and forfeited policies.

Mr. English, of the Ætna Life, asked that the bill be amended so not to refer to foreign companies, as his State, Connecticut, might pass retaliatory laws, which would be very disastrous to the companies of this State.

Mr. Rhodes, the actuary of the Mutual Benefit Life, was one of the most convincing speakers. He said that his company's business in this State had been conducted honestly, and that it had done the best it could for the policyholders. Should the

bills become laws without amendment his company would be forced to leave the State.

Mr. Joseph Ashbrook, vice president of the Provident Life and Trust of Philadelphia, and Vice President Noyes, of the Northwestern National, spoke against several features of the bill, after which William H. Hornbower made what was to be a summing up of the hearing. Most of his remarks were in general terms. He said the actuaries generally agreed as to the dangers that were in the bill.

After sessions of nearly thirteen hours the hearing was adjourned at 11 o'clock p. m. to be resumed on Thursday, March 13, to be continued on Friday and Saturday, or as long as it was necessary for a full and complete hearing.

The utmost harmony prevailed throughout the hearing. Both the members of the committee and the representatives of the companies and agents showed that they were striving to reach results that would be of the greatest benefit to the business.

THIS WEEK'S HEARINGS.

The Insurance Committee gave another hearing on Thursday of this week, which was continued to Friday. Chairman Armstrong, in a short speech, asked the speakers to be as brief as possible and avoid repetition, declaring that everyone would be heard and the hearing would be continued as long as necessary.

The attendance was not as large as that last week, but among the notables present were Presidents Holcombe, of the Phœnix Mutual Life, and Dunham, of the Travelers; Vice Presidents Kingsley and Buckner, of the New York Life, Lunger, of the Travelers; Jenkins, of the Security Mutual Life; Secretary McCall, of the New York Life; Actuaries Dawson, of the Armstrong Committee, Moir, of the United States Life, Sartelle, of the State Mutual Life, and Messrs. Appleton and Patterson, of the State Department of Insurance.

President Timothy L. Woodruff, of the Provident Savings Life, again acted as conductor of ceremonies, and introduced as the first speaker R. Burnham Moffatt, representing a recently organized association of Brooklyn policyholders of the New York Life. He protested against that feature in the proposed legislation which turned out of office entire boards of trustees on November 15 next. He said in part:

I cannot imagine, nor can you, that any of the gentlemen now on the board would spend one ha'penny in an effort to secure his own re-election. And so I think we can assume, without doing any violence to our common sense or knowledge of business affairs, that the 200,000 holders of the policies less in amount than $1,000 each will afford a legitimate and attractive field from which proxies may be culled by any ambitious gentlemen from the world of finance who may tell without fear of contradiction or explanation any tales that may occur to them, or make any promises they will, to induce the granting of the proxy.

As to the remaining 800,000 policies—assuming they represent as many policyholders, although we know that many men carry two or more policies on their lives—approximately 70 per cent., or 560,000, are in the United States, and the remainder abroad. Here again the field is left open to those who may be tempted by the bait.

Unless you can guarantee, Mr. Chairman, that the purposes and motives of those who will strive to obtain proxies, in order to obtain control, are pure and disinterested, your plan must plainly imperil, to state it mildly, the policyholders' fund.

F. W. Jenkins, of the Security Mutual of Binghamton, thought that the man with a $50,000 policy should have more votes than the man with only a $1,000 policy, and objected because the law did not say so. He said that within the time specified for the polls to be open it would be a task physically impossible merely to verify the signatures on proxies so as to prove them genuine. He protested especially against the injustice of compelling the purely mutual companies, of which there are only four, to expose their policyholders' names to an annual raid by the would be "twisters" of the eighty other competing companies of the State.

J. H. McIntosh, general solicitor for the New York Life, contended that there is no genuine demand for the ousting of the present board of his company and no legitimate excuse for it. During the Armstrong inquiry, he said, not a single instance was discovered where any life trustee got a dollar that did not belong to him. Mr. McIntosh amplified Mr. Moffatt's arguments and pointed out that new executives have come into the companies, who are doing what they can to cure past evils, and that they should be given a fair opportunity.

"Unless you can guarantee, Mr. Chairman, that the purpose and motives of those who will strive to obtain proxies in order to obtain control are pure and disinterested, your plan must plainly imperil the policyholders' fund. And human nature is such that some—yes, many—men are yet to be found in what I have termed the world of fianance who may surely be counted upon to seek to obtain such control, and their motives, we can feel reasonably sure, are not always pure or distinterested."

Henry W. Taft followed as the representative of the Mutual Life. One of the most urgent questions to his mind was that of investments. He thought the provision embodied in the bills would cause immediate loss to the policyholders, and urged that they be modified. He agreed that insurance companies should not hold the stocks of moneyed corporations, but that was far from saying that they should dispose of present holdings in five years. He told of a letter which President Peabody had received on Wednesday regarding the formation of a pool to "bear" a certain stock in which the Mutual Life held more than $7,000,000. This stockholder wanted to form a "bull" pool to counteract this movement. Mr. Taft contended that throwing over the insurance stock holdings, even within five years, would tend to disturb the stock market. Another question of importance, according to Mr. Taft, was that of contingency reserve. He said that if the 2 per cent. rule had been in effect in the last few years some of the biggest life insurance companies would have found themselves insolvent in time of panic.

Mr. Taft's third serious point was the question of election, in view of the fight which Stuyvesant Fish is making through his international policyholders' committee to gain control in November next. His specific suggestion was that votes by ballot and by proxies be filed for inspection by a committee of policyholders thirty days before an election, or held for inspection thirty days afterward. This was taken to indicate that the Mutual Life, if the provisions about the election are enacted, intends to contest the collections of ballots made by the policyholders' committee.

ANDREW HAMILTON APPEARS.

At this point Andrew Hamilton, late counsel for the New York Life, appeared and requested to be heard. He accused the trustees of the New York Life of being fully aware of all his transactions and of having applauded his achievements. In opening he thanked the committee for giving him an opportunity to be heard, and said he would confine himself to the men who composed the executive department of the New York Life insurance company. He referred sarcastically and strongly to "curs and traitors." "It is your duty," he said, "to report in favor of the bill which will remove from office the trustees of the New York Life insurance company. I see among them men who have listened to the reports of what I have done and applauded them." He said that he did not come to make any defense or apology for what he had done, but simply to lay bare the true position of the men who composed the executive staff of the company. "When they say they did not

know what was going on they excite my derision and laughter," he said.

"There was nothing done by me for the New York Life insurance company but that all of the executive officers are conscious of. They knew all about my expenditures. I went into the New York Life service as a country lawyer, and I beat Mr. Pecksniff —I beat him alone and they told me they would give me a chance. When I submitted my first month's statement voucher it was the duty of the auditing committee to say whether I should continue or not. I went on from month to month and year to year, and during all that time I was carrying out the purposes of the company, with the knowledge of its officers. About ten years after these same gentlemen say, 'This fellow is responsible for it all.' If it were their duty to stop the matter, it should have been done in the first month."

Mr. Hamilton said the Parish account was passed upon by the auditing committee. "Not a dollar passed through my hands," he said, "upon which I did not put my 'John Hancock.' Knowledge of these matters was known to the entire board because the membership of the auditing committee changed from time to time. It makes me laugh when these men say they did not know that Andrew Hamilton was spending money of the New York Life for its benefit and the benefit of its policyholders throughout the country. I well remember the way I was received after blocking some important legislation militating against the interests of the company.

"Men who would hardly know me now would pat me on the back and commend me for what I had done. I come not to apologize but to say that these men should shoulder a responsibility. They may talk about the 'yellow dog,' but it is a dog of loyalty compared with the curs who shrank in their shoes. They are unfit to be retained in the office which they hold."

The following was Mr. Hamilton's allusion to John A. McCall:

"Now, about the vouchers. All I say about them is I did not keep the books of the New York Life. I never saw the inside of one of their books. And when $1,000 or $5,000 came in my possession, I gave my voucher for it. Now if I was going to do anything wrong with it or put it in my pocket, I would have got it in another way, and I could not get it, because the stingiest man that ever audited an account of mine was John A. McCall. I had to go up and show cause before I went into it, and then when I came back I had to show cause before I could pay my bills."

Mr. Hamilton's address was delivered with dramatic force and created a sensation.

Mr. Untermyer, who is understood to be retained by Thomas W. Lawson, appeared, as he claimed, on behalf of the "international policyholders' committee." In the course of his speech he got into a controversy with Senator Grady, who derided the "combinations" to defeat the committee bills which Mr. Untermyer said were in existence. Mr. Untermyer supported the committee's bills except that he objected to putting off the annual elections for trustees of the mutual companies so long. He suggested substituting September 1 for November 15, and demanded that there be inserted in the bill a provision requiring the companies within thirty days after the passage of the bill to file lists of policyholders and their addresses with the Superintendent of Insurance. Mr. Untermyer spoke generally on the lines already put forth by Mr. Lawson, saying, for example:

Everybody who knows anything about this subject understands that in so far as concerns the affairs of these mutual companies the surface has not even been scratched of the bottomless pit of corruption which extends throughout their operations for years past. The extent to which the policyholders have been robbed cannot become known until the present régime has been turned out and people have been put in their places who are in no way responsible for or connected with their misdeeds. The longer that day is delayed the worse it is for the policyholders.

John De Witt Warner, representing Washington, D. C., policyholders, followed with an argument to support the committee's election bills.

The joint committee of the New York Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Association of Public Accountants filed a memorandum on changes which it considers necessary in the bookkeeping of the life insurance companies. Although they thought the matter of equal if not greater importance than many of the subjects which the Armstrong Committee has taken up, it had received little or no attention. They said that there is no doubt that the present form of statement is, from an accounting point of view, incomplete, unsuitable and misleading in many particulars, and in the opinion of many who have studied this subject is largely responsible for the irregularities recently disclosed.

At the night session President Dunham and Vice President Lunger, of the Travelers, argued that foreign insurance companies should be exempted from the provisions of the bills. Mr. Lunger said his company made a specialty of non-participating insurance. A stock company writing this business would have to have excessive loading on its premiums if it complied with the recommendations. Vice President English, of the Ætna Life; Lippincott, of Penn Mutual, and Stuart Brown also spoke.

The notorious Lawson bombarded the chairman of the committee with telegrams during the day, but Mr. Armstrong refused to give them out, saying that he was in no mood to help advertise Lawson.

At Friday's hearing the speakers were A. L. Dickinson, Harvey T. Chase and W. H. Bracket, representing the New York Society of Chartered Accountants; Mr. Williams, of Buffalo, representing assessment and Masonic insurance interests, and Vice President Darwin P. Kingsley, of the New York Life. The latter confined his remarks to a criticism of Section 98 of the proposed law, contending that if it passed it would force the company to put back the middleman after fifteen years had been spent in trying to get rid of him.

It is understood that a sub-committee of the Insurance Committee, still to be selected, will meet in New York city early next week with Charles E. Hughes to go over the mass of suggestions and protests made, and make recommendations to be submitted to the full committeee about next Thursday, either here or in New York. Chairman Armstrong said last night that he expected to present the bills in their amended and final form, so far as the committee was concerned, not later than the week after next.

"The Human Equation" in Sprinklered Risks.

The report for February of the Boston Manufacturers' Mutual Fire contains as usual "modern instances" relating to the damage of sprinklered risks, and showing that, however automatic these devices, the human equation must always be considered. Thus the danger of coming to too hasty a conclusion was shown at a fire in the Toronto (Ont.) carpet mill, February 6, of which the report says:

In the upper story of No. 2 Mill were four small closets each about 3x4 feet, containing cut designs ready for use by the weavers on the Jacquard looms. A weaver, entering the room at 11 a. m., saw smoke coming from the closets. He endeavored to extinguish the fire by using water from a number of fire pails, but finding that it was rapidly gaining headway, gave the alarm. By the time help arrived the closets were all on fire and the smoke quickly drove the men from the room. Several sprinklers were in operation by this time. The public fire department arrived in about ten minutes and carried a line of hose up through the stair tower. The chief, assuming the entire charge, and believing he had the fire under control, ordered the water shut off from the sprinklers. In this he made a mistake, for in a few minutes he saw the fire increasing and ordered the water turned on again. During this interval, perhaps several minutes, the heat opened all the heads in the room—forty-six in number—so that when the water was turned on a second time the room was flooded and the water,

leaking through the floors, wet the contents of the entire building to the basement. The fire was extinguished after about thirty minutes. The loss, which will be largely by water, on the contents of the building, consisting of Jacquard cards, carpets, rugs, art squares, colored yarns in skeins and on crops, and designs and patterns used in the building, amounts to $17,660. The results of this fire emphasize the necessity of care not to shut water off from sprinkler equipments too quickly. This company not interested.

Again, on February 16, the value of a sprinkler equipment in the plant of the American Locomotive Company at Richmond, Va., was to a large extent neutralized, because the people on the premises were insufficiently acquainted with its layout, and the manner of controlling it, as appears from the following description:

At about 9 p. m. one of the workmen discovered fire in second story of pattern shop building. The cause of the fire is unknown. The alarm was immediately given and responded to by the employees and also by the city department. The first line of mill hose was taken up the steps on the outside of building, but burst as soon as the pressure was turned on. The second line taken from the hydrant in front of office also burst. This caused considerable delay and before efficient streams could be brought into play, the contents of the room and the entire roof were burned, and the fire had passed into the roof of Building No. 17. By this time the city fire department had three streams at work, and there being no wind the fire was extinguished after about an hour's duration. The roof, part of the floor, all windows and doors, and contents of the pattern shop were destroyed or badly damaged. The building was equipped with automatic sprinklers and water was supposed to be kept on the same, but for some unknown reason it was shut off. The valve controlling the supply of water was in a pit in the ground, and no one on the premises was familiar with the location of same; hence the sprinkler equipment was of no assistance. With the water on the sprinklers, it is probable that the fire would have done little damage. This fire illustrates the need of having indicator posts on all outside sprinkler valves, and also that more than one person on the premises should have accurate knowledge concerning the fire apparatus. Loss, $7,947.14. This company not interested.

Remonstrance of the Philadelphia Association of Life Underwriters Against the Proposed Armstrong Law Restricting the Commissions of Agents.

To the Insurance Investigating Committee, Albany, New York:

GENTLEMEN—At a meeting of the Philadelphia Association of Life Underwriters, called for the special purpose of considering the legislation proposed by your honorable committee, the following minute was adopted, to wit:

The membership of the Philadelphia Association of Life Underwriters is composed of the local agency representatives of nearly all the life insurance companies operating in the State of Pennsylvania.

The legislation proposed by the Insurance Investigating Committee of the New York Legislature, while of peculiar interest to the representatives of companies chartered in the State of New York, is of vital concern and moment to every life insurance underwriter. The Philadelphia Association desires to express its sympathy and approval of every act tending to elevate the standard of the business. In view, however, of the recommendations of the committee with respect to the compensation which shall be allowed for the procurement of new business and its renewal (or intention), the Philadelphia Association wishes to enter its most earnest, yet respectful, protest against the enactment of the bill in its present form, believing that it would work a great injustice to the field men of the companies, and that it would result in grave financial injury to all who are engaged in the business of inducing men and women to avail themselves of the protection which life insurance affords.

We would base our protest upon the following grounds, namely:

First. The absolute necessity of personal solicitation in the life insurance business. Experience has demonstrated this fact beyond question. The immense value of insurance in force for the protection of the beneficiaries of the wage earners of America has been obtained almost entirely through the efforts of the field worker. Before the companies existed the agent was. Through personal solicitation he collected his charter members and organized his company, and the subsequent development of the institution is the result of his efforts. The bill as proposed would render efficient work along this line practically impossible, as men of energy and ability could not afford to engage in the work. The importance of the solicitor in life insurance work can hardly be overestimated, and any measure restricting his usefulness is inimical to the interests of the insuring public, as well as to the whole community. A single family denied the benefits of insurance increases the responsibility of the State, and any great diminution of life insurance protection would result in increased taxation for the maintenance of public charity.

Second. Best results to policyholders, companies and the people yet to be insured can be obtained through trained and permanent representation. Capable and continuing representation can only be secured by allowing adequate compensation for meritorious work in the organization and development of agency centres. The bill as proposed would tend to discourage the adoption of the business of soliciting as a permanent occupation, as it does not permit sufficient reward for continuance. The business would, therefore, be degraded into a makeshift, and temporary expedient to be discarded as soon as opportunity presented.

Third. A changing agency force results in "twisting" of policies. The truth of this proposition is obvious and needs no comment except to emphasize the fact that the practice works irreparable injury to policyholders.

Fourth. The earnings of the solicitor have been overestimated and overstated. A few instances of general agency management have been taken as representing the conditions existing throughout the country. We believe that if the committee will investigate the situation from the agents' standpoint, with respect to the necessary expense of conducting his business, the drastic provisions of the bill as submitted will be modified.

Fifth. Freedom, publicity and competition are great correctives of evil, and the other features of the proposed legislation with respect to publication of statements, gain and loss exhibits, actual dividend results and political and legislative contributions, rebating, etc., would effect the desired reforms, and competition among the companies based on actual results would necessarily control the expenses of the business.

The Philadelphia Association has been advised that it is the intention of the committee to give a hearing to the representatives of the agency branch of the business of life insurance, and we are, therefore, encouraged to believe that it is the purpose of your committee to recommend such legislation as will not only conserve the interests of policyholders, but will protect with equal justice the opportunity for the successful development of all the various interests involved.

Respectfully submitted,

THE PHILADELPHIA ASSOCIATION OF LIFE UNDERWRITERS.

E. H. Plummer, J. H. Jefferies, Henry C. Lippincott, Committee on Resolutions. W. A. Higinbotham, President. H. K. Read, Secretary.

Argument of the John Hancock Life Insurance Company Against Certain Features of the Armstrong Bills.

To the Joint Committee of Senate and Assembly and the Committee on Insurance of the State of New York:

The John Hancock Mutual Life insurance company, incorporated under the laws of the State of Massachusetts and duly licensed to transact business in the State of New York, respectfully represents that certain sections of the bill introduced by the Joint Committee, entitled "An act to amend the insurance law generally," will, if enacted, work hardship not only to New York companies, but to all companies chartered by other States, and at present doing business in strict conformity with the existing laws of New York.

This company has at large expense established its agencies and entered into lawful contracts in the transaction of its business within the State of New York, but now, if its construction of the bill under consideration be correct, finds that conflict of laws must occur and embarrassment to business result without establishing new safeguards to the policyholders of this company. While the company urges the principle of equitable comity between the States, it begs to call your attention to and makes representations as to the effect in practice of certain sections of the proposed bill, as affecting this company, as follows:

Section 33 (Page 11). Under the reciprocal provision, if any State commissioner shall refuse to accept as conclusive and absolute the certificate of the New York superintendent, of the solvency and goodness of a New York company, then the superintendent may peremptorily refuse to give authority to any company of such offending commissioner's State to operate in New York. Under such a provision the companies of Massachusetts would be constantly in danger of having their business destroyed

and themselves arbitrarily excluded from New York, if by chance some new or weak New York company were to present to the Massachusetts commissioner the certificate of the New York superintendent and demand admission to Massachusetts, and this was refused because its conditions did not meet the requirements of the Massachusetts law. For instance, in this respect, the standard of valuation of policies proposed in New York is the so called "Select and Ultimate" table and method, which calls for a very much lower reserve in the early years of a policy than the standard in use in Massachusetts. Therefore a company while in full compliance with New York law might easily be much deficient in Massachusetts, and unable to obtain admission there, and by consequence great danger of exclusion is upon the strong, sound companies of Massachusetts. Then under the Massachusetts reciprocal law the same disaster could be inflicted unworthily upon the New York companies operating here.

Section 39 (Page 12). Under this section there is a requirement that at least once in three years the New York superintendent shall examine every outside company doing business in New York. Already in our own laws there is the requirements upon the Massachusetts commissioner to examine every Massachusetts company once in three years. This New York requirement would, therefore, compel the Massachusetts companies to submit to the double burden of inconvenience and expense, which would surely be retaliated upon by the Massachusetss commissioner upon the New York companies. And more than that, similar retaliatory provisions are in the laws of most of the States, and there would hence be a continual series of burdensome, unnecessary and ruinous expenses entailed upon the New York companies. But our protest is, of course, based only upon the wholly needless burdens upon a Massachusetts company.

Section 83 (Pages 27, 28). If Section 83 applies to outside companies, and it is not quite clear that it does not, the method of dividends and the amount of surplus that may be retained, would be objectionable from the liability to misapprehension and error, and especially from the hardship that might be entailed from rigid requirement made obligatory upon any and every company whatever its circumstances or conditions, which vary in all corporations.

Section 84 (Page 31). Provides for the valuation of policies and the standard of valuation proposed for all companies differs from that of every other State, and hence the standing of an outside company as made up by the New York department must show a different surplus and financial condition from that of its own books, or as estimated by the department of its own State. This section, moreover, would compel the department of every other State to adopt the standard of New York in making its valuations under penalty of rejection by the New York superintendent.

The "Select and Ultimate" method is wholly new and untried, and it is more than possible that in some, if not in many, of the States, it might be considered illogical and insufficient, and its forced adoption at the mandate of this law be seriously objectionable, and the cause of retaliation and confusion wholly disproportionate to any benefit such change could possibly bring.

Section 97 (Page 33). Section 87 makes an inflexible rule for the measurement of the surplus a company may hold, regardless of the time and nature of its business, and might very easily, in case of depression or panic, ruin the most reputable and best intentioned company, and its application to outside companies, therefore, is so objectionable that exemption is asked in this respect.

Sections 97 and 98 (Pages 49 and 50). The rule for fixing the loadings upon the premiums, and the limitation of expenses that may be incurred in the acquisition of new business, are so inconsistent and inadequate as to entirely prevent the Massachusetts companies from entering the field at all without violating the laws of their own State in a very essential and important particular. As, for instance, the first year's expenses are limited to the loading and the saving of mortality in the first five years, as indicated by the "Select and Ultimate" method of valuation. This on an ordinary life policy would permit the using of almost the entire first premium, but by the Massachusetts law of full net valuation no part of the net premium could be used for that or any other purpose except for insurance cost and reserve, leaving only the bare loading, perhaps 25 per cent. of the premium, for all commissions, medical and other first year's costs, a sum so inadequate as to make any new business impossible. This prohibitive condition is made even more impossible in any form of limited life and endowments as the relative loading is less and less.

Section 101 (Page 53). By the proposed limitation of investments, to say nothing of the exclusion of stocks from the assets, the prohibition of purchase or ownership of the bonds issued by however worthy and substantial a corporation, if such bonds are based to the extent of one-third upon other stocks, even if guaranteed by the issuing corporation, would confine the investments almost wholly to mortgages, which at the ruling rates of interest and attending expenses would drive the companies at once to a 3 per cent. or lower rate for their premiums and reserve values, and compel an immediate and very considerable raise of premium rates for insurance, and lowering of surplus and dividends. The compulsory throwing so many hundreds of millions of collateral debentures upon the market under the ban and discredit of a legislative enactment could not fail to injuriously and dangerously affect all financial values, and occasion a great loss to the companies by such forced sales.

Section 102 (Page 55). The prescription of a standard form of policy for all companies of all States, inevitably makes great confusion of inconsistent and irreconcilable conditions in those where conditions of policies have already been made subject to statutory rules. In the Massachusetts law positive values in dollars and cents are defined in cash and paid up values of lapsing policies; these provisions are mandatory, and so far vary from those fixed by the bill that the Massachusetts companies could not possibly obey both, and they have no choice as to which of them must be observed.

This company therefore prays that such amendments may prevail as shall relieve outside companies from the embarrassments consequent upon conflict of laws and the burdensome limitations of the sections of the bill herein recited.

THE JOHN HANCOCK MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.
By Arnold A. Rand, Second Vice President.

The Life Insurance Agents' Position.

The brief submitted by Mr. William C. Johnson to the insurance committees at Albany protesting against the bill to curtail agency expenses stated the position of the life insurance agents as follows:

It is true, as stated, that the life insurance agents throughout the State are keeping up active and vigorous work against the proposed new Section 98 of the insurance law, limiting agency expenses. Whatever work they are doing, however, is in the open, and they believe that the best course to pursue is to represent their case in an open and straightforward way, because the facts are with them. The story that they are raising money to fight this bill is untrue. The men who appeared in Albany last week to express their opposition paid their own individual expenses, and all the work in connection with the agents' fight is being done by volunteers. Even at the formal hearing they were not represented by a paid attorney, but presented their case through one of their own number.

The agents are naturally stirred up over the situation, because it not only affects their opportunity to earn a living, but the proposed new law would undoubtedly prove injurious at least to many of the smaller and better type of companies and to the interests of the policyholders who have been placed in these companies by their respective agents.

The public probably does not clearly understand what the real effect of the proposed Section 98 would be upon the agents. Under its provisions, taking as a basis of calculation the highest premium now charged by any American company, and using thirty-five as the average age, the total fund per thousand of insurance from which must be met all agency expenses of every nature would amount to $17.43. Under the terms of the section the following items would have to be met from this expense fund, before paying any compensation to either the solicitor or the general agent; namely, medical fees, the cost of inspection of new applicants, the expense of the maintenance of branch offices throughout the United States, including both rent and furniture; clerical hire at branch offices, advertising, printing and distribution of circular literature; postage, expressage, freight, telegrams and other expense items incurred in conducting the business; licenses for agents, occupation taxes charged by many cities, particularly in the South; taxes on new premiums, amounting in some States to 2½ per cent. of the gross premiums—on some forms of policy this tax alone would equal 15 per cent. of the expense loading per thousand quoted above—the cost of maintaining medical and agency departments at the home office, including salaries of the heads of these departments, their clerks, etc.; the cost of printing application and policy forms and the maintenance of the policy department at the home office; agency supervision and travel in the field, covering salaries and expenses of men engaged in procuring, training and supervising agents.

All these expenses would have to be met from an expense

(*Continued on page 207.*)

Life Insurance Business in Ohio in 1905.

(From a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Superintendent.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Incurred.
Companies of Ohio.						
Columbia	512	$1,099,851	1,558	$2,902,326	$85,450	$4,000
Union Central	2,311	3,651,662	27,176	40,486,717	1,720,656	229,358
West'n & S'thrn	1,382	1,289,891	3,440	3,286,641	101,235	30,000
Totals	4,205	$6,041,404	32,174	$46,675,684	$1,907,341	$263,358
Companies of Other States.						
Ætna	1,451	$2,499,468	9,646	$16,351,786	$592,611	$361,602
American Central	154	406,500	319	698,355	19,752	1,005
Berkshire	232	509,500	1,942	5,042,907	149,490	48,509
Chicago	123	153,559	104	120,350	2,427	1,500
Columbian Nat.	229	1,012,270	266	1,197,610	41,770	------
Conn. Gen	246	478,129	668	1,010,803	35,267	10,049
Conn. Mut	524	1,159,710	5,075	12,751,055	390,431	315,869
Equitable, Ia	843	1,073,446	4,100	5,272,428	194,457	28,618
Equitable, N. Y.	2,391	4,899,706	18,937	43,575,637	1,575,903	532,819
Federal	369	662,560	565	1,025,639	28,335	------
Fidelity Mutual	349	943,067	2,420	4,581,856	169,186	53,250
Franklin	350	517,114	805	1,292,178	49,366	7,447
Germania	209	312,055	1,791	2,655,521	112,282	74,645
Hartford	149	226,338	1,902	3,615,814	142,972	151,018
Home	527	742,714	4,201	5,844,216	225,404	129,506
Illinois	272	377,609	1,620	2,402,276	76,016	17,921
Inter-State	224	830,500	247	904,146	76,449	16,780
John Hancock	2,165	3,679,275	14,907	25,724,417	922,345	124,128
Manhattan	314	602,060	3,367	4,503,300	179,135	46,531
Mass. Mutual	1,086	1,693,879	3,966	9,469,936	340,992	117,931
Metropolitan	11,083	7,715,225	33,261	26,141,929	1,083,814	191,260
Michigan Mutual	932	1,360,256	6,538	8,435,813	287,126	117,057
Mutual, N. Y.	3,548	5,641,446	31,467	66,130,045	2,056,874	1,290,876
Mutual Benefit	1,558	3,351,554	12,696	27,907,342	1,044,819	594,931
National, Vt.	1,188	1,873,954	8,525	13,989,068	469,170	90,014
New Eng. Mut	566	1,250,974	3,656	7,425,059	243,906	67,530
New York	4,915	9,478,413	32,901	64,437,377	2,426,636	580,241
Northwest'n Mut.	2,311	5,509,113	22,103	52,867,567	1,888,570	614,127
Pacific Mutual	258	368,736	1,320	2,174,138	82,853	10,827
Penn Mutual	716	2,146,593	5,476	15,476,413	563,736	179,757
Phœnix Mutual	499	761,964	3,468	5,819,739	252,097	103,512
Pittsburg L. & T.	364	244,150	6,662	3,329,541	112,895	35,134
Pres. Min. Fund.	19	20,000	76	95,436	3,971	5,064
Provident L. & T.	489	924,434	4,020	9,156,322	344,413	93,578
Provident Savings	559	2,094,751	2,145	6,508,257	238,537	69,811
Prudential	8,344	7,920,067	28,407	29,715,244	984,386	168,620
Reliance	335	611,710	362	674,210	31,000	------
Reserve Loan	36	100,735	31	83,735	3,753	------
Royal Union	387	500,020	1,478	2,026,695	77,440	6,000
Security Mutual	876	1,320,260	2,101	3,320,034	134,873	30,443
Security T. & L.	132	210,085	786	1,154,241	69,515	16,454
State, Indiana	495	1,185,198	1,395	2,863,063	89,382	13,000
State Mut., Mass.	347	744,143	3,194	7,552,381	260,072	97,286
Travelers	837	1,709,376	4,017	8,895,316	303,435	150,410
Union Mutual	229	256,978	1,714	2,222,878	71,969	15,450
United States	223	573,947	2,188	3,650,181	124,565	41,520
Washington	264	378,974	1,900	3,033,849	120,630	55,642
Totals	53,717	$81,032,506	293,735	$523,126,103	18,695,025	$6,677,672
Foreign Company.						
Canada	765	$1,274,622	2,362	$4,876,471	$179,198	$47,450
Totals, Ordinary	58,687	$88,348,532	333,271	$574,678,258	20,781,564	$6,988,480
Indust'l Business.						
Germania	-----	--------	9	$1,052	$45	------
Metropolitan	101,606	$16,349,952	493,866	71,684,918	2,325,023	$682,170
Prudential	121,903	16,087,238	372,422	46,727,920	1,754,242	489,129
West'n & South'n.	78,207	8,700,931	190,968	20,428,800	922,094	244,041
Totals, Indust'l.	301,716	$41,138,121	1,057,265	$138,842,690	$5,001,405	$1,415,340
Gr'd Totals, 1905.	360,403	$129,486,653	1,390,536	$713,520,948	25,782,968	$8,403,820
" " 1904.	367,305	143,280,147	1,287,136	676,579,984	24,332,534	8,050,625
" " 1903.	378,414	140,317,655	1,187,528	626,660,954	22,191,555	7,678,166
" " 1902.	383,134	135,157,411	1,085,993	586,825,446	20,337,943	6,731,155
" " 1901.	352,778	116,011,936	965,267	527,726,088	18,195,984	6,955,072
" " 1900.	332,888	108,709,234	861,680	481,106,907	16,225,428	5,591,042
" " 1899.	314,142	99,567,448	751,784	432,802,312	14,419,653	5,153,644
" " 1898.	257,651	81,914,189	635,069	383,848,200	12,756,431	4,979,458
" " 1897.	229,645	75,597,303	564,398	354,836,298	11,944,183	4,934,547
" " 1896.	211,747	67,405,211	511,974	333,999,725	11,221,395	4,719,193
" " 1895.	228,940	68,098,490	482,200	319,569,034	10,901,462	4,090,230
" " 1894.	328,084	82,929,057	456,692	302,666,336	10,105,406	3,762,161
" " 1893.	184,618	59,937,134	384,244	280,996,302	9,337,059	3,784,464

Life Insurance Business in Pennsylvania in 1905.

Companies.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Incurred.
Companies of Pennsylvania.				
Fidelity Mutual	$4,381,702	$24,673,449	$915,896	$300,503
Penn Mutual	17,957,725	90,886,489	3,273,767	1,159,207
Presbyterian Ministers	430,229	2,124,198	60,364	14,857
Pittsburg Life & Trust	3,817,326	7,374,683	219,596	22,666
Provident Life & Trust	7,562,352	72,470,262	2,702,057	568,632
Reliance, Pittsburgh	853,060	2,927,747	115,174	23,000
Security Trust & Life	624,006	3,174,993	79,393	62,175
Totals	$35,626,400	$203,631,821	$7,366,207	$2,151,040
Companies of Other States.				
Ætna, Hartford	$1,683,203	$20,070,548	$771,853	$464,808
American Central, Ind	1,363,500	1,555,000	42,483	------
Baltimore Industrial	2,213,346	3,114,574	217,954	95,059
Baltimore Ordinary	564,658	1,410,919	55,484	7,715
Berkshire Life	1,152,900	17,143,423	607,858	275,253
Canada, Toronto	733,500	1,774,685	60,461	7,807
Chicago Life	86,500	164,300	5,902	------
Connecticut General	430,600	2,961,964	100,679	42,710
Connecticut Mutual	1,950,236	17,280,787	535,186	477,880
Colonial, Jersey City Ind.	2,774,348	2,365,696	82,023	14,073
Colonial, Jersey City Ord.	388,000	599,500	20,265	2,500
Columbian National Ind.	2,610,629	1,284,380	39,702	13,411
Columbian National Ord.	2,219,185	4,112,405	151,376	9,330
Equitable, Des Moines	330,486	1,784,942	68,252	5,010
Equitable, New York	13,536,369	139,463,713	4,667,606	1,965,509
Germania, New York	477,820	3,850,366	150,510	136,623
Hartford Life	335,000	5,007,498	142,002	86,000
Home, Brooklyn	723,832	6,792,512	293,712	73,630
Illinois Life, Chicago	1,650,467	2,689,817	72,073	12,459
Inter-State Life, Ind	530,500	2,055,086	96,989	18,265
John Hancock Industrial	5,583,441	30,920,709	1,089,066	331,124
John Hancock Ordinary	4,952,051	19,775,548	713,618	148,169
Kansas City Life	389,158	427,408	42,291	275
Life Ass'n of America	752,285	1,296,285	42,783	29,500
Manhattan, New York	1,764,914	6,247,286	227,286	139,419
Maryland, Baltimore	11,075	144,975	7,801	206
Massachusetts Mutual	1,479,279	13,422,194	464,503	347,555
Metropolitan Industrial	38,423,312	154,511,795	*6,966,714	1,509,413
Metropolitan Ordinary	12,327,041	47,284,090	------	384,156
Michigan Mutual	882,610	3,880,854	134,217	20,725
Minnesota Mutual	60,839	669,468	23,519	14,000
Mutual Benefit, Newark	3,817,680	36,930,175	1,250,951	760,448
Mutual, New York	15,828,884	121,794,938	4,334,774	2,884,146
Mutual Reserve, N. Y.	706,325	5,752,164	244,259	190,540
National, Vermont	1,917,410	17,093,921	613,629	201,961
National U. S. A.	524,643	1,677,873	60,177	12,475
New England Mutual	2,039,080	24,944,000	844,113	565,679
New York Life	16,221,215	112,990,984	4,656,704	1,572,575
Northwestern Mutual	6,240,750	54,939,398	1,947,882	866,453
North American, Toronto	------	16,500	589	------
Pacific Mutual	323,795	1,670,327	59,575	6,313
Phœnix Mutual	862,981	5,156,421	205,713	77,443
Provident Savings, N. Y.	1,687,073	7,301,389	268,585	160,000
Prudential Industrial	42,115,347	165,680,441	6,350,207	1,812,991
Prudential Ordinary	16,595,986	72,009,853	2,664,310	454,002
Royal Union Mutual	68,690	645,390	24,594	1,359
Skandia Life, Chicago	60,500	310,244	5,814	927
State Life, Indianapolis	658,398	2,711,284	93,453	17,500
State Mutual, Worcester	1,158,982	9,262,737	333,777	285,015
Security L. & A.	3,421,983	7,011,733	247,160	11,000
Security Mut., Binghamton	1,426,077	6,374,783	240,323	62,730
Sun, Montreal	1,481,060	3,475,922	134,594	36,228
Travelers, Hartford	2,171,582	24,323,958	688,145	353,402
Union Central, Cincinnati	1,620,813	14,747,483	493,811	114,920
Union Mutual, Maine	427,935	3,372,538	111,029	27,434
United States, New York	792,730	3,931,956	138,716	59,270
Washington, New York	471,654	5,450,983	226,580	266,923
Western & Southern	620,228	757,087	31,262	5,106
Totals	$225,651,925	$1,224,496,999	$44,245,112	$17,465,729
Grand Totals, 1905	$261,278,325	$1,428,128,820	$51,611,319	$19,616,769
" " 1904	265,212,467	1,357,288,229	48,866,096	16,808,810
" " 1903	258,231,676	1,261,837,224	45,113,625	16,659,274
" " 1902	234,684,302	1,142,854,315	40,623,710	14,781,654
" " 1901	232,491,478	1,046,692,536	36,341,784	14,085,775
" " 1900	213,728,175	955,319,580	32,914,047	12,577,337
" " 1899	203,321,780	867,973,742	29,490,444	12,443,837
" " 1898	158,537,501	760,706,565	26,055,924	10,192,828
" " 1897	156,969,467	711,356,481	24,884,093	10,443,944
" " 1896	135,960,089	664,517,765	23,151,980	9,249,045
" " 1895	136,689,887	634,053,748	21,930,084	7,950,916
" " 1894	174,596,307	610,071,498	20,578,048	9,280,108
" " 1893	149,539,918	580,834,941	19,648,928	7,949,518
" " 1892	125,345,289	529,283,807	18,092,454	7,231,469
" " 1891	112,264,053	486,719,502	16,816,998	6,986,034
" " 1890	120,355,272	448,933,305	15,636,353	6,348,125
" " 1889	95,201,016	400,471,979	13,887,536	5,673,370
" " 1888	96,642,519	358,394,122	13,078,071	5,851,829
" " 1887	85,025,825	334,983,108	10,855,356	4,174,988
" " 1886	74,089,790	296,163,937	9,484,526	4,133,877
" " 1885	60,436,972	265,489,998	8,236,427	3,918,143
" " 1884	48,957,711	239,165,548	7,402,520	3,661,284
" " 1883	46,474,312	222,165,824	6,538,978	3,679,982

* Includes Ordinary.

We are indebted to *The Insurance World* for the figures from which the business of 1905 was compiled.

(*Continued from page* 205.)

fund per thousand, which in the case of some companies is but $16, and in the case of companies charging the highest rates is but $17.43, before the agent can receive any compensation. Is it not clear that the adoption of this section would lead to the disruption of the agency organizations of all the companies?

The president of a well known company in a lecture last year before the University of Pennsylvania stated that the average amount of new business written by the agents in the United States was less than $50,000 per annum. In testimony given before the investigating committee last fall by the then president of the largest company in the world it was stated that the average income of life insurance agents did not exceed $800 per annum under present conditions. Under the terms of the new law it would probably be difficult to pay even as much as 30 per cent. commission to the soliciting agent.

It should be borne in mind that the agent has to go out and look for his business, and must pay from his earnings many incidental expenses; and that he has to meet the expense on and does not receive any compensation for those numerous cases which he works up but which result in rejections. In the cities there are a comparatively few agents who have larger opportunities, but how few these are is indicated by the fact that in 1904 one great company, which in that year wrote over $330,000,000 of paid business—more than had ever before been written by any life insurance company in one year in the history of the world—had only 164 agents in its employ who produced as much as $200,000 of paid business apiece.

Again, in the past companies have paid commissions upon the actual premium collected, and if an agent has sold a limited premium or endowment policy he has received a larger compensation than if he sold the lower life rate. It is proposed under the new law that all commission shall be based upon the life rate only. A careful study of the figures indicates that for this reason it would take a 60 per cent. commission under the new law to equal in dollars and cents upon a given volume of business a 45 per cent. commission under the old law. We do not object to the limitation of commission to the life rate, provided the effect of such limitation upon the total compensation of the agent is borne in mind, and any new commission limit not put too low. In our judgment the requirement of annual accountings and the publicity and accountability provisions of the new bill will solve this question of expense without any necessity for statutory restriction. But if the restrictions be insisted upon, then the most which should be imposed is that the total compensation of agents the first year should be kept within the loading and mortality saving for that year, as defined in Section No. 98, leaving the companies free above that to meet fixed charges, such as rents, etc.

Such provision would render it impossible for a company to pay more than 60 per cent. commission, which would but equal 45 per cent. commission on the present basis, and the latter represents a figure as low as has been established by even the most economical of the smaller companies in the past.

Suggestions by the Actuaries Upon the Bills Before the New York Legislature.

At a meeting of actuaries held in New York March 3, to consider the Armstrong Committee bills, twenty-six actuaries from various States being present, a committee of seven of their number was appointed to present their views to the Legislature. The following are extracts from the brief which they prepared:

SECTION 83.—DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS TO POLICYHOLDERS.

This section may be in direct opposition to the provisions of the charters of various companies operating in the State. It applies to "every policy issued" by any company doing business in New York, and provides that, at the option of the policyholder, any share of surplus apportioned to his policy shall be permitted to accumulate to the credit of the policy at such rate of interest as shall be allowed by the company. Such shares of surplus left to accumulate at interest involve no life contingency whatever, and form a purely banking business, which form of business is denied to some companies by charter provisions and is not allowed to life insurance companies under the existing laws of this State.

A possible misconstruction of the intent of the sentence beginning with line No. 20 on page No. 28 is very easy. If the bill as drawn is enacted into law, the old policyholders may be held to be entitled to no shares of surplus whatever, and those who insure after January 1, 1907, may be held to be entitled to "the aggregate amount of the remaining surplus after providing for the payment of authorized dividends upon the capital stock, if any, and for a contingency reserve not in excess of the amount prescribed in this article." This uncertainy might be removed by omitting the words "which shall be" in line No. 25, page No. 28.

This section divides each company into two parts, old members, or those holding policies issued prior to January 1, 1907, and new members, or those holding policies issued on or after that date. To determine the surplus earned by each part of the business a separation of accounts must be made involving different effective rates of interest earned on investments as well as different rates of mortality if the "select and ultimate" method of valuation be adopted. This sets up an entirely impractical system of paying shares of surplus, and tears down a system established by long years of practice. It will be impossible to treat all policyholders alike who desire to use shares of surplus in reduction of premiums due, for in many cases premiums must be paid before notice can be mailed in regard to surplus apportioned.

It is absolutely impossible to make the calculations necessary for the year ending December 31, and to make the required apportionments of shares of surplus to be allowed on premiums falling due early in January, or possibly during the months of January and February, or even during March. Fluctuations in the shares of surplus apportioned from year to year will be very severe, and the cause of great dissatisfaction. In some years the company may earn no surplus whatever for its new members, and in other years large sums may be available for apportionment. Mortality often fluctuates as much as or even more than 10 per cent. of the "tabular" amount, and the fluctuations in the bond market are in like manner severe. The present tendency is to pay too large shares of surplus in the early years of policies, and we feel that restrictions should be made against companies paying more than they can afford as well as against paying less than they should.

Under the provisions of this section shares of surplus may be accumulated at interest from year to year during nearly the entire lifetime of a policyholder, and on his deathbed he may instruct that they be applied to purchase reversionary additions to his policy. The company is precluded from taking into consideration the state of the man's health at that time, and, therefore, must suffer serious loss through what is known as adverse selection.

It is far from clear at what time reversionary additions are to take effect. If, however, the computations are to be made as of a date three months after the premium becomes due upon the policy to which the share of surplus is apportioned, they should be made at the then nearest attained age of the insured. In case the policyholder fails to notify the company in writing of his election in the matter of application of any share of surplus apportioned to his policy prior to the payment of the premium, the cash value only of such share of surplus should be placed to the credit of the policy, to be paid on demand of the insured.

In our opinion, under the proposed law, no apportionment of shares of surplus should be made prior to the payment of third year's premium, and all such shares shall be due and payable only upon payment of the ensuing year's premium, if any be due.

SECTION 87.—CONTINGENCY RESERVE.

This section permits a percentage of the reserve liability to be maintained as a contingency reserve by life insurance companies. This percentage is a decreasing quantity commencing at 20 per cent. for a small company and almost vanishing entirely for a large company, being then limited to only 2 per cent. The section further stipulates "that no such corporation having existing surplus funds or contingent reserves or funds awaiting distribution as deferred dividends, shall be entitled at any time to accumulate any additional contingency reserve under this section, except to the extent that the aggregate of such reserves and funds is less than the contingency reserve to which it would be entitled according to the rates above mentioned, if computed upon the net values of the total policies then outstanding." It is submitted that 2 per cent. is far too small a margin for safety. All other surplus immediately becomes liability under the new law, and it is of frequent occurrence to have securities, even of the first rank, depreciate far more than 5 per cent. in a single year, and should this happen, the company might be prohibited in some States.

The class of security which finds greatest favor in the recommendation of the committee is that of mortgage on improved real estate. Those who had to do with investments in the years 1893 to 1895 will recollect that such mortgages in Western States were subject to serious fluctuations in value; forced realizations at that time would have caused heavy losses.

Even if a company kept only 40 per cent. of its assets in first class railroad or other bonds, a depreciation of 5 per cent. in

their value from the 31st of December of one year to the 31st of December of the next would bring about practical insolvency on a 2 per cent. margin. Whatever contingency reserve is permitted should be a percentage on the total policy liabilities of the company.

It would seem also that any sums held as dividends unapportioned, or apportioned and not due, ought not to be considered any part of the contingency reserve permitted under this section.

A proper contingency reserve would be to allow—in addition to the market value of securities over cost—a contingency reserve, not to exceed 10 per cent. of the aggregate reserve value of its policies as computed by the company, but a company should be allowed to hold as much as $100,000 as such contingency reserve.

A sufficient contingency reserve is necessary for the protection of all the policyholders, to whom security is of paramount importance. And as an additional reason for desiring this increase in the limit of contingent reserve, it may be urged that since your committee has decided that to insure the solvency of a company a reserve must be held on the 3½ per cent. interest basis, for new business, while the older and a very large proportion of the policies are on a basis requiring 4 per cent. interest net on investments—we submit that this increased rate of contingent reserve shall be permitted, so that the 4 per cent. reserve may be increased gradually to a 3½ or 3 per cent. basis, if that shall be found desirable in the future.

SECTION 97.—LOADING.

The principle of loading provided in Section 97 is incorrect when the questions of taxation and cost of collections are taken into account, as such taxes and collection fees are based upon the full premium. The loadings now provided for in the premium rates of the several companies are no greater in the judgment of the actuaries of the several companies than are required by the necessities of the business. In order to retain the present loadings, therefore, on other forms than ordinary life, the loading on ordinary life premiums would have to be increased greatly; in other words, the effect of this section would be to cause an increase in the rates for ordinary life policies.

We believe that the loadings on premiums should be left to the companies themselves, as competition is sure to regulate them within comparatively small limits. We recommend very strongly and unanimously that this section be entirely stricken out of the proposed law.

SECTION 98.—LIMITATION OF EXPENSES.

While sympathizing heartily with the committee in its desire to decrease the expenses of life insurance companies, we wish to call attention to certain points where we believe the proposed law is unscientific and unworkable.

We believe that the pecuniary value of a policy to a life insurance company should not be measured solely by the mortality savings effected during its first five years, which is the measure adopted in this bill. Certainly with equal justice should the premium loadings during the same period be considered as a fair offset against the cost of securing the risk—an unfailing item which lapse of the policy cannot destroy, since theory, practice and this law itself demand that the lapsing policyholder leave a portion of his reserve to replace his contract by another equally as good.

Then this law is based on the suppositions that every premium is paid in full for one year, and that no applications will be declined, and that no policy will be returned as "not taken." These suppositions are contrary to the facts, and no allowance is made on account of the heavy expense incurred on declined and "not taken" cases.

Moreover, the section is unworkable because it is impossible to segregate with any degree of exactness the expense of procuring new business from the total administrative expenses.

In regard to the limit placed on the total expenses of the company no allowance is made for taxes, which in some States are laid on the total reserve of the company, in others on the total surplus of the company, entirely without reference to the premiums paid, and no allowance is made for gains from lapsed and surrendered policies.

With any limitation of the total expenses the companies should not be bound by any prescribed system of loadings on premiums or method of compensating their agents, but should be left free to work out their own salvation as best they may, with full accounting and publicity, and, under the limitations which may be provided for, competition will effectually discourage any extravagance.

We heartily agree with the opening paragraph of the committee's report under the head of "expenses":

"The committee deems it inadvisable to recommend that the Legislature attempt to prescribe the expenditures of insurance corporations. The Legislature cannot undertake the management of the business. In seeking to secure economic administration it should not overstep the line which divides suitable State supervision from an utterly impracticable effort to prescribe details. The Legislature should aim to permit freedom of management, subject to general regulations and complete publicity."

Unassailable Position of American Life Insurance Companies.

In *Moody's Magazine* for March appears a translation of an article contributed by Mr. Charles A. Conant to *La Revue Economique Internationale* of Brussels on the affairs of American life insurance companies which have recently attracted much attention in Europe on account of the Armstrong investigation. The following is an extract:

The trouble with the American companies has not been lack of security in their investments. The net earnings of the investments of the American companies have been larger than those of foreign companies, and larger than they would have been if the policy had been pursued of investing only in the highest classes of bonds. The men who have authorized these investments, as members of the finance committees of the insurance companies, have usually been men at the very top of la haute finance in New York. If slightly speculative risks have occasionally been taken, they have been based upon accurate "inside information" regarding the securities involved, and upon judgment long tested and eminently successful in American finance. More and more in recent years, moreover, the tendency has been to exclude speculative risks altogether from insurance investments, and to fall back upon what are known in America as "gilt edged" securities; or, in Paris, as "securities of the first order."

The fact that America was a new country, where capital earned higher returns than in the old countries, was down to recent date one of the fundamental reasons for the success of the American insurance companies. A decade or two ago, when good railroad bonds paid 5 per cent., and secure loans on real estate 6 or 7 per cent., the American companies were able to easily distance their European rivals in earnings on their investments. Hence came their ability to cut under the English and French companies in their own field by more enticing offers of dividends and lower premiums. It is not surprising that continental insurance companies, unable to face the competitive power of high interest earnings, have sought special legislation to drive the American companies from the field in Germany, Austria-Hungary, France and other countries.

The advantage of the American companies in this respect, however, has been steadily declining toward the level of similar investments in older and more settled countries. In the United States themselves there has been a difference between the earning power of investments in the East and in the West, especially on real estate loans, which has given an advantage to some of the Western companies. Thus, the Northwestern Mutual Life insurance company was able in 1903 to show net earnings on investments of 4.21 per cent., while the Equitable of New York showed only 3.70 per cent.; the Mutual Life, 3.96 per cent., and the New York Life, 4.17 per cent. Much greater differences would have been shown by similar comparisons for a decade or two ago. Even in the West, at the present time, in consequence of the extension of banking facilities, the accumulation of loanable capital, and the settlement upon firm foundations of the conditions of credit, the frontier of large returns upon investments has been steadily driven farther inland, and the time is not far distant when the Western companies will have no material advantage in this respect over their Eastern competitors. As this evolution was defined by the London *Statist* as long ago as last September:

> Of late, owing to the great increase in wealth in the United States, rates of interest and discount have fallen very materially. They are, no doubt, somewhat higher than in Europe even yet. But they are steadily tending downward. Furthermore, rates are declining in the West, so that the Western companies have no longer the great advantage they formerly had over the Eastern companies, and both together have not the great advantage they formerly had over European companies. All thinking people in the United States recognize that the value of money must steadily decline as the wealth of the United States increases. Therefore, it will not be as easy as it formerly was to get safe investments yielding a comparatively high rate of interest.

It is to the credit of the men at the head of American life insurance companies that they have never been tempted by the fierceness of competition to reduce annual premium charges be-

low the limit of safety. Influenced in some cases by State laws, but often suggesting those laws, they have kept their premium rates fully up to the requirements of the mortality tables, with adequate additions for expenses. They have left to the assessment companies the hazardous and criminal business of collecting premiums barely adequate to meet the requirements of the youth of the company, and trusting to luck or the infusion of "new blood" to meet the growing requirements of later years. Slight reductions in premium rates have occasionally been made, but they have been well within limits of safety and have not essentially retarded the accumulation of the large surplus funds which are the pride of the big companies. Looked at simply as financial institutions, the American insurance companies occupy a position which is unassailable.

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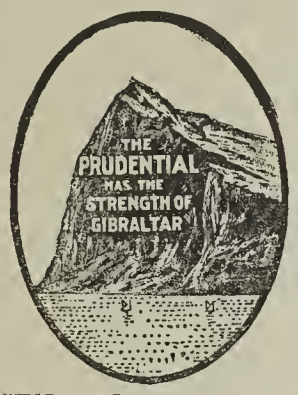

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JANUARY 1, 1906

Assets	$1,542,949.10
Liabilities	1,046,546.17
Net Surplus	$496,402.93

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FRED E. RICHARDS, *Pres.* ARTHUR L. BATES, *Vice-Pres.*

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EDSON D. SCOFIELD, Superintendent, 180 Broadway, N. Y. City.
THORNTON CHASE, Superintendent, 84 Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

Provident Savings Life Assurance Society

OF NEW YORK.

TIMOTHY L. WOODRUFF, PRESIDENT.

THE BEST COMPANY FOR POLICY HOLDERS AND AGENTS.

SUCCESSFUL AGENTS, AND GENTLEMEN SEEKING REMUNERATIVE BUSINESS CONNECTIONS, MAY APPLY TO THE HEAD OFFICE, OR ANY OF THE SOCIETY'S GENERAL AGENTS.

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY

OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

NEW YORK OFFICE:

68 WILLIAM STREET.

GERMANIA

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

NEW YORK.

ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE

Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1904	$2,617,755.75
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,406,159.17
Joint Stock Capital	500,000.00

INCORPORATED 1799.

Providence Washington Insurance Company,

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Northern Assurance Company,

OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN DEPARTMENTS,

38 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

GEORGE W. BABB, JR., Manager. T. A. RALSTON, Sub-Manager

Capital, $2,500,000. AGENTS WANTED.

SURETY ON BONDS.

American Surety Co.,

100 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK.

Capital, $2,500,000.

STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Resources (including Capital, $2,500,000)	$6,193,137.53
Liabilities (including Reserve, $856,188.70)	1,347,671.23

HENRY D. LYMAN, *President.* W. S. JOHNSTON, *Vice-President.*

Telephone : Cortlandt 5395.

Caledonian Ins. Co., of Scotland.

FOUNDED 1805.

"The Oldest Scottish Insurance Office."

UNITED STATES HEAD OFFICE:

Caledonian Building, 50 and 52 Pine St., New York City

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,883,210.00
Liabilities	1,215,950.00
Net Surplus Over All Liabilities	$667,260.00

CHARLES H. POST, U. S. Mgr.

R. C. CHRISTOPHER, Ass't U. S. Mgr.

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 12 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Milwaukee.

ASSETS, $151,663,477.29

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1905 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $105.83 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1905:

395 per day in number of Claims Paid.
6,972 per day in number of Policies issued.
$1,502,484 per day in New Insurance Written.
$123,788.29 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.
$77,275.94 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks.	$79,629,477.18
Bonds and Mortgages..	38,062,610.75
Real Estate.....	17,495,905.30
Cash	4,183,912.16
Demand Loans on Collateral	3,747,285.50
Loans to Policyholders.	3,703,554.50
Prem. deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,826,755.63
Accrued Int., Rents, etc.	1,013,976.27
Total	$151,663,477.29

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves.....	$132,705,296.00
All other Liabilities.....	2,776,602.33
Capital and Surplus....	16,181,578.96
Total	$151,663,477.29

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security..... $318,264,084.12

Number of Policies in Force, 8,596,705.

Amount of Outstanding Insurance.....$1,596,509,769.00

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice President.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di.
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di.
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co

OF MILWAUKEE

ORGANIZED 1857

H. L. PALMER. President C. H. WATSON, Secretary

Growth of Company

Year	Insurance in Force
1866	$ 15,041,082
1886	110,710,861
1906	764,266,187

Business of 1905 largest in history of Company.
Purely Mutual, and transacts business only in the United States.

During 1905 The Northwestern paid $6,489,060.83 in dividends to policy-holders; a larger amount than was ever paid in dividends by any company in the world, regardless of size, in a single year up to 1905.

Increase in new business during 1905, over 20%.

Expenses and taxes to total income during 1905, only 14%.

Administrative expenses during 1905, only 4.02%.

No compensation paid to officers other than their salaries.

No syndicate participations. No bank or trust company stocks.

Neither Company nor Officers interested in any flotation of securities.

Hence Best Results to Policy-Holders.

Most Attractive Policies.

Issues Partnership and Corporation Insurance.

For further information or an Agency, address:

H. F. NORRIS,
Superintendent of Agencies.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President.
HENRY S. ROBINSON, Vice-President.
HERBERT H. WHITE, Secretary.
DANIEL H. WELLS, Actuary.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410.42	$11,290,773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President.
EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer.
BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary.
T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

QUEEN

Ins. Co. of America.

NEW YORK.

Provident Life and Trust Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. **THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY** invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

INCORPORATED 1865.

GERMAN INSURANCE CO.

OF FREEPORT, ILL.

The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$5,546,127.97
Cash Capital,	200,000.00
Liabilities, including reinsurance,	3,617,361.34
NET SURPLUS,	1,728,766.63

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.

LIMITED,

OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1906. No. 12.

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IT is not too much to say that the movement for Federal supervision of insurance is killed by the adverse report of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives of Congress. The committee is composed of the leading lawyers in the House (twelve Republicans and six Democrats), and to it was confided the question of the power of Congress to enact a law providing for national control of insurance. The opinion of the committee is unanimous. Its view, in the language of the report, is "that it is a monstrous doctrine, subversive of our dual system of government, to even suggest, after the distribution of these great powers between the Federal Government and the States, that the Federal Government, created by the States, can take from the States the power they have always enjoyed, and which is expressly reserved to them by the constitution. Hamilton himself never made such a claim." Other declarations in the report are equally strong and decisive. Our readers need hardly be told that the belief of this paper, repeatedly expressed in its columns the past quarter of a century, has been that the people of the States will never consent to part with the right they have exercised since the beginning of our Government of making the terms upon which they will permit other State insurance corporations to transact business within their borders. Their representatives in Congress will never vote to pass a law opposing their will in this respect. The Judiciary Committee of the House settles finally the question of the possibility of the adoption of national supervision by Congress. As to the possibility of obtaining from the Supreme Court by direct appeal a reversal of its opinion that insurance is not commerce, the report of the Judiciary Committee is similarly emphatic. "It is useless to live in hopes that the Supreme Court will reverse its holdings," it says, and it adds that the court on those points "has never been shaken or weakened."

THE Armstrong Committee has decided that the first bill to be put on its passage shall be that providing for the election of new boards of trustees of mutual companies on November 15, and directions have gone to Albany to jam it through, in order to get ahead of the impending annual elections under the company charters. The bill has been amended by its authors, so as to make invalid any proxy executed prior to September 15, instead of July 1, and eliminate any elections at all in 1907. Of all the objectionable legislation proposed this is the most vicious in principle and in some respects the most impracticable. It establishes the principle of a fierce scramble for proxies over three or four continents, with the abhorrent possibility that the speculator craving for the control of a company's funds, who has the longest purse, will succeed in his efforts. It makes easy the conversion of authority in a life insurance company, which needs most of all things stability in management and policy. The enactment of this bill will usher in the greatest contest for power over vast accumulations of trust funds that insurance will ever have seen. Another wrongful provision of the bill is its forcible exposure of the lists of policyholders. Aside from the opportunity that that gives to twisters, the cost of labor in preparing and in the printing of several million names and addresses will mount into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. The filing of these lists must take place five months prior to election, the friends of the trustees being forced to publish their nominations a month in advance of those made by the outsiders. The almost undisguised purpose of the bill is to oust the present administrations of Messrs. Peabody and Orr. The curious plea is made for the amendments to the bill that if adopted the will of the policyholders who want to reform the companies by removing the present officers cannot be defeated. But if a majority of the policyholders *will* that the present officers remain why should not *their* will be respected? Is it the duty of the Legislature to enforce the will of a minority?

FOR a man who was so dangerously ill a few weeks ago that his physicians despaired of his life if he removed a day's journey from the French baths, Andrew Hamilton displays recuperative powers of an unusual order. There is no present indication in his mental and physical activities that he is not in the very bloom of good health. At all events he has kept the centre of the stage this week, to the delight of the yellow newspapers, which weary not in printing his many sayings and reporting his numerous doings, with portraits to match, for which he has posed. The most interesting phase of the prevailing Hamilton craze is the variation between his statements regarding his intimacy with the members of the board of trustees of the New York Life and their statements regarding their acquaintance with him. He asseverated at Albany and frequently repeated the asseveration in New York this week that these gentlemen personally passed on his legislative accounts and O. Kd. his vouchers. On the other hand Mr. Claflin says: "I have no acquaintance with Mr. Hamilton." Mr. Mackay says: "I never knew that such a man as Andrew Hamilton existed." Colonel Paine says that he "had never heard Hamilton's name mentioned until the Armstrong Committee's proceedings." Mr. Bliss denies that he signed the campaign fund receipt which Mr. Hamilton exhibits. Secretary Root

declares that his statement about him "is entirely untrue." Governor Higgins says the same. The trustees rise en masse and protest that all they saw of Mr. Hamilton's accounts were receipts for unexplained expenditures. In his deathbed letter John A. McCall tells President Orr that the transactions in which Mr. Hamilton was engaged, while proper, were entirely confidential and known only between themselves. It is only fair to all the parties concerned to concede that this accumulative testimony puts the man of the hour in a predicament. It may be true, as he informs reporters, that he is "nothing but a poor little country lawyer arrayed against a great and powerful force," but truth is mighty, and if he is veracious it will prevail. In view of his present picturesque loquaciousness we can appreciate the astonishment of the "eminent lawyer" quoted in the papers who exclaims: "How in the world could a man with such a collection of language keep quiet for twenty years?"

To persons closest to District Attorney Jerome and best acquainted with the principles which guide his official action, it has long been known that he will not undertake to seek an indictment unless he is morally satisfied that he can convict. This determination will explain why, in the face of the vicious pounding he has undergone from a part of the daily press, he has so far refrained from instituting criminal proceedings against the executive officers of the larger life insurance companies under fire. Few public officials have been the object of so much persistent newspaper abuse for alleged dereliction of duty as Mr. Jerome has in connection with the insurance cases. But he has not been convinced that there are legal grounds for successful prosecution. To weakly yield to clamor under the circumstances and fail is not a chance that this virile man is willing to take. He has, however, resorted to the expedient of asking a court to advise the grand jury if it can indict for larceny in a given case among the several which are said to constitute the wrongdoing by the insurance officers. And he has accompanied his request for a judicial opinion with a statement of his own views in this specific case. The demand of the radical newspapers has been that the public prosecutor shall undertake the punishment of the insurance officers for contributing funds belonging to their companies to the campaign needs of political parties. The District Attorney holds that there could be no crime unless a felonious intent existed. Can it be shown that in giving away the money of the company for the purpose of preventing—what the officers believed to be—an injury to the company, they knowingly contemplated the commission of a crime? It is obvious that they did not. After all, the nub of the whole business is that in those official acts for which they have been censured the officers had the law behind them. They proceeded under authority granted them, direct or discretionary, by their boards of directors, and the directors were the representatives of the policyholders (or in one case of the stockholders)—the source of all power—duly elected. The chain is complete. In contributing to political funds, in accepting compensation for services, in going into syndicates to secure investments at bottom prices, and in appropriating money to prevent harmful legislation, the officers proceeded under authority given them by the owners of their respective companies. The morality of these transactions is not under consideration. It is the legal, not the moral, character of the official acts which the District Attorney has had in view in determining whether those acts are indictable.

Facts and Opinions.

The imminence of the death of **President Pattison, of the Union Central Life,** was made known in the following press dispatch received as this paper was going to press:

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 23.—The death of Governor John M. Pattison is expected at any moment. It was admitted early today by his secretary, Lewis Houck, that the end was near, and that the family was prepared to enter the sick chamber at a moment's call. His son has been summoned home from college. Two physicians have remained with the Governor since Tuesday night, and they agree that there is no hope for their patient. He has had convulsions which have weakened him considerably, and has been unconscious much of the time. Governor Pattison has not been at his office in the State Capitol since the day of his inauguration, January 8.

The following statement was given out as authoritative yesterday afternoon:

Mr. Stuyvesant Fish has not as yet committed himself in insurance matters to any existing policyholders' committee, public reports to the contrary notwithstanding. His position is for the development of legitimate business along conservative lines. He is for the eradication of evils where they exist, but is against unwarranted and unjustifiable attacks upon any insurance company.

The long search for suitable quarters at a reasonable rent for the **fire insurance patrol of New York,** authorized more than two years ago to cover the lower East Side, has at last resulted in a most satisfactory arrangement. A livery and boarding stable at 133 Norfolk street, just off Rivington, has been secured, and the leases are ready for the signatures of the patrol committee at the time of our going to press. Chairman Ogden is receiving congratulations upon having obtained so good a building in so good a location. Little or no alteration will be needed to make the building ready for occupancy, as it has a good sized door and stalls. If possession could be had immediately it is estimated that the new company of the salvage corps could be housed within twenty-four hours. As matters stand, however, the lease of the present occupants does not expire till October 1, 1906, but they are willing to get out before that time if they can find a place. The history of this search has been an interesting one. Long ago the New York Board, realizing the need of a company on the lower East Side, authorized one, to be known as No. 7, to relieve Nos. 1 and 2, located in Murray and Great Jones streets respectively, from the onerous duty of chasing over into the ghetto and leaving unprotected the higher valued districts downtown and on the lower West Side. The committee started out to find a house, but it was surprising to note the effect this search had upon real estate values. Nearly every place where a proposition for a site was made increased in alleged value to prohibitive prices as soon as it became known to what use it was to be put. Several times a slip occurred just at the last moment before the signing of the papers. Yet in spite of these discouraging circumstances the committee worked on. The company was organized, the apparatus was procured, the horses were purchased and everything was gotten in readiness, so now, as soon as the present tenants move out, No. 7 can step in and be ready for business. An effort is now being made to purchase property to build a new house for No. 2, whose Great Jones street lease expires in May.

The **Truesdale investigating committee of the Mutual Life,** aided by its new counsel, Joseph H. Choate, has prepared a series of fifteen questions to be submitted to the members of the board of trustees, present and recently resigned, asking for certain information. These questions cover dealings with other corporations in which the Mutual Life had at the same time stock or other interest, relationship by blood or mar-

riage with employees, individual connections with subsidiary corporations and syndicates, interests in banks which held the company's deposits and responsibility for voting $150,000 salary to Mr. McCurdy. **Proxy hunting** by the opposition combine has been going on vigorously during the week, and it is announced from New Orleans that Insurance Commissioner Cole, of Mississippi, has closed an arrangement with the Louisiana Insurance Commissioner to co-operate in collecting and turning over proxies to Mr. Fish. The New York *Herald* claims to have inside information that it is the intention of the Fish party, after obtaining control of the Mutual Life and ousting President Peabody, Vice President McClintock and the entire personnel of the present administration, to make Gage E. Tarbell president. It states that Mr. Fish will not now aspire to the presidency, because he realizes that he is not a practical insurance man, and he will need a "skilled pilot" to guide the company. Such Mr. Tarbell unquestionably is, and as it is understood that the relations of Mr. Ryan and Mr. Tarbell in the Equitable "are not so intimately cordial as to preclude the possibility of their severance," the transfer of his services to the Mutual will come easily. Only recently Mr. Tarbell denied the truth of another yellow paper's story of friction between himself and Mr. Ryan.

What is called in the jargon of the detectives **a plant** was apparently practiced by Thomas W. Lawson last week in connection with charges made by him to the Massachusetts Attorney General of rebating by the Mutual and New York Life insurance companies. There were shown affidavits by people who swore that they had obtained policies from the companies for which they had paid no premiums and had signed releases of proxies to the officers thereof by way of return. The "exposure" was printed in the yellow papers with hot headlines and facsimiles of the policies and affidavits. The matter was brought to the attention of President Peabody, of the Mutual Life, this week. He said that he considered the charges an insult to the intelligence of the managers of the companies, quite aside from the moral aspects of the case. He explained that the general agents of the Mutual Life had sub-agents working for them, any one of whom would be able to rebate a first premium to an applicant in case he entered into an arrangement to furnish the Boston financier with evidence for the grand jury. The process, Mr. Peabody said, would be for the sub-agent to have the prospective policyholder examined, and then to issue to him the policy, which would, however, not become binding on the company until the first premium had actually been received. In so doing a basis would be furnished for any affidavits of the kind that Lawson presented without an apparent misstatement of facts.

Members of the **committee of fifteen** appointed by the **life insurance convention** recently held in Chicago met there on Tuesday to discuss the possibility of obtaining uniform insurance laws through the different States. Commissioner O'Brien, of Minnesota, presided at the meeting, and among those present were Superintendents Drake, of the District of Columbia; Prewitt, of Kentucky, and Vorys, of Ohio. The recommendations of the Armstrong Insurance Committee were discussed at length, and many of the important features suggested in the report of the committee were received with favor. Representatives of insurance companies, however, appeared before the committee in opposition to certain features of the bills. The provision arbitrarily limiting the expenses of companies and the section of the bill providing for the maintenance of a contingency reserve were especially criticised. Those who spoke were C. McMullen, of the National Association of Life Underwriters; Joseph Ashbrook, of the Provident Life and Trust; J. J. Barker, of the Penn Mutual Life, and A. M. Sweeney, of the State Life of Indiana. The committee favored a standard life insurance policy, and a committee was appointed to draft the form of laws which will carry the standard policy into effect. The sub-committee will be named in a few days by Chairman O'Brien. The sub-committee will be instructed to use the Armstrong bills as a basis.

A **letter from President John R. Hegeman,** of the Metropolitan Life, appeared in the New York *Times* this week in reference to charges against its manner of disposing of its surplus. Mr. Hegeman said:

Let me say that the provisions of the Armstrong bill respecting contingency reserve do not apply to non-participating business. This is shown by the words with which the section begins: "Any life insurance corporation doing business in this State may accumulate and maintain a contingency reserve out of the surplus attributable to policies issued," etc. In a non-participating business there is no surplus attributable to policies. Permit me to add that policyholders in this company need not be disturbed at our surplus. The dividends to stockholders are limited to 7 per cent. There never has been shown any disposition on the part of the company to accumulate large surplus. The company has kept it down to about 10 per cent. of its assets by yearly distributions to non-participating policyholders of the profits made out of their policies. Millions of dollars have thus been paid out to policyholders whose contracts have not given them the right to participation in surplus. The act on the part of the company has been a voluntary one, and the distribution has been made in the manner best adapted to getting the surplus back into the hands of those who built it up. Ten per cent. as a surplus is considered by the company to be only a reasonable margin of safety. It is approximately that which was laid down as a proper surplus by the statutes of the State of Massachusetts before the laws of that State were changed so as to permit the writing by its domestic companies of tontine insurance. The policy in the Metropolitan is a well settled one, and neither policyholders nor the public have any occasion for alarm or criticism as to the disposition of its surplus earnings or the accumulation of unnecessary funds.

In the argument of **President Dunham, of the Travelers insurance company,** at the Albany hearing on the Armstrong Committee bills he made the following trenchant protest against the application of certain drastic provisions to companies of other States, which would, he declared, provoke retaliation on New York companies and force the withdrawal of foreign companies from New York. He said:

The proposed law places definite restrictions and prescribes definite methods, not only for New York companies, but for all others doing business in New York. Companies of other States must invest their resources, compensate their officers and agents, distribute their surplus and otherwise conduct their domestic affairs according to New York's standards or leave the State. Moreover, the New York department must once in three years examine outside companies at their expense, while other States must accept New York certificates of New York companies under penalty of excommunication. This is not in conformity with comity between States, and if enacted it will inflict the severest blow yet given to the worthy cause of uniform legislation upon questions in which all the States are concerned. If Congress had power to legislate concerning insurance for all the States it could not well make its provisions more comprehensive. The law as it stands is a challenge to other States to exclude New York companies from their borders, and it is calculated to provoke all kinds of retaliation. The defect can be remedied by enacting the restrictions mentioned for New York companies, leaving the legislatures and departments of other States at liberty to charter their own companies and regulate their affairs. If they are solvent and honest and certified by reputable departments, New York should admit them as New York companies are admitted to other States.

The opinion of the United States Court of Appeals at St. Louis in the case of **Whitfield vs. the Ætna Life insurance company,** already reported, is accepted as of considerable importance. The decisions of the Missouri courts in the case made the law of that State providing that no company can offer suicide as a defense for not paying a policy apply to accident companies, whereas it was originally supposed to apply only to life insurance. The Federal court decision set aside those of the State, and held that the Ætna was liable only for the amount stipulated in the policy in case of suicide. James Whitfield was a well known sporting editor in Kansas

City. He committed suicide in 1902 while carrying a $5,000 accident policy in the Ætna, the policy having a provision that in case of suicide the company should be liable for only $500. The company tendered the $500, but the full $5,000 was demanded under the Missouri suicide clause, and suit was begun. It is assumed that had the policy provided that no payment whatever should be made in case of suicide the result might have been different, as that would have been a plain violation of the State statute, but so long as a partial payment is made in suicide cases the Federal courts upheld the policy. The accident companies will hereafter issue policies in Missouri only with the partial liability clause.

The **Armstrong Committee** was **in session** in this city this week considering amendments to its bills, with Counsel Hughes and Actuary Dawson in attendance. Audience was given to certain representatives of insurance interests who had pleas to make in reference to amendments. The bill providing for the election of trustees of mutual life insurance companies was completed with important changes and dispatched by Committeeman Prentiss to Albany with directions to rush it. At the close of the hearing at Albany on Friday of last week Chairman Armstrong said:

If there is no one else desiring to be heard the hearings will be formally closed. In conclusion, I may say we are much obliged to all who have appeared before the committee and given us suggestions or endeavored to help us effect this legislation. The committee will give most careful consideration, of course, to the written transcript of these hearings and such briefs and documents as have been or may be filed with us, provided that we receive them before Monday night. They may be addressed either to Assemblyman James T. Rogers, at the Assembly chamber, or to me at the Senate chamber, and will be forwarded duly to the conference room. It is our hope that we will be able to progress the work so as to report amendments within two weeks. We realize that we have considerable work to do, and if we are not able to meet our plans fully it will be because we are using the time that we think necessary to give careful consideration to every suggestion that has been made.

A story of total depravity in the **taking of human life to gain the life insurance** comes from Capetown, South Africa, where the sudden disappearance early in March of a German farmer named Schaeffer led to an investigation, culminating in the suicide of a neighbor named Basson, believed to be responsible for several other murders in that section. Basson was known to have approached the farmer with an offer to buy his place and this, with the receipt of anonymous letters by the police, led to an investigation. In a grave filled with quicklime and 8 feet deep in an outhouse on the Basson place was found the remains of the lost farmer. Seeing that he was discovered the murderer blew out his brains. The death of a brother by drowning three years back, that of an English carpenter only a year ago, evidently by murder, both persons being insured in Basson's favor, point to additional crimes. Three other recent murders have been charged to his account. Later developments show that Basson, although only twenty-five years old, had made murder his life work. He had possession of insurance policies on the lives of a number of prominent Cape people.

Judgment was delivered recently in the Admiralty Court, London, in the matter of an action in which the owners, master and crew of the Norwegian steamer Eidsiva claimed **salvage remuneration** for services rendered to the Holland-American Line steamer Soestdijk, which became disabled at sea by the breaking of her rudder on November 28 last, when on a voyage from Newport News to Rotterdam. The Eidsiva, being a vessel of only 1,092 tons gross and 676 tons net, it was arranged she should make fast astern of the liner, which is of 6,465 tons gross register, and assist to steer her into Falmouth. That service was not, however, completed, although the Eidsiva was ready to do so, because when off the Lizard the master of the Soestdijk availed himself of an offer of tug assistance. The weather at the time was fine. The value of the salved property was put at £104,938. The total value of the Eidsiva hull, cargo and freight was £18,820, and she suffered some two or three days' detention through the assistance rendered the Soestdijk. The court awarded £2,000.

One Howard, a policyholder of the Pacific Mutual Life, has filed a suit in the county clerk's office, San Francisco, alleging fraud on the part of the Conservative Life in the recent merger of the two companies. Howard charges that the **Pacific-Conservative Life insurance company** was formed for the purposes of uniting the assets of the Pacific Mutual Life with the liabilities of the Conservative Life. He asks the court to restrain the completion of the merger and to forbid Insurance Commissioner Wolf issuing a certificate of insurance to the corporation. Commissioner Wolf states that the amalgamation does not necessitate the issuance of an insurance certificate. The annual statements of the two companies were verified, and from investigation everything appears to be in good condition. Vice President Cochran, of the Pacific-Conservative, says that the merger was practically by the unanimous consent of the stockholders of both companies, and that the charge that the Conservative is insolvent and indebted to the stockholders in any amount is absurd.

The hard fought Rilling case in Chicago, in which C. W. Rilling, an agent, sued the New York Life **to recover commissions on insurance**, is to come up for rehearing next month. Rilling secured an application from George P. Braun, a wealthy manufacturer of Chicago, for $100,000 in the New York Life, but the policy was held up and finally was issued through another agent. Rilling claimed that it was issued on his application, sued to recover the commissions, and was given a judgment for $5,800, the full commission on the first year's premium. The case was appealed and the Appellate Court cut this in two, being deceived by the fact that the policy finally issued was on the instalment plan and was ostensibly for $200,000, while the original application was for $100,000. The Illinois Supreme Court has now reversed and remanded the case on the ground that Rilling afterward submitted the application to the Equitable Life, which is construed as an abandonment of his application to the New York Life.

The New York Grand Lodge of the **Order of United Workmen** held a meeting at Buffalo two weeks ago to consider the deplorable financial condition into which the order has fallen in this State, and decided to nearly double the assessment rates for insurance. In consideration of this action the Supreme Lodge has agreed to assist the Grand Lodge in paying off its mortality debts to members, which amount to some $700,000. In consequence of the heavy advance in rates hundreds of members are dropping out. The change in rates affects only the jurisdiction of this State. The Order of United Workmen includes in its membership every class from United States Senators down to hod carriers, its roll numbering more than 400,000 in the United States. Its form of government was modeled after that of the United States; there are forty-one State jurisdictions, and each one has complete self government. Every one of these sends three delegates to the Supreme Lodge, which corresponds, in its power and functions, to the United States Senate.

A fire originating in the boiler room of the Woburn, Mass., Auditorium, while a performance was in progress, last Saturday night, completely destroyed that building, on which insurance to the amount of $20,000 was carried. The coolness

of the orchestra and performers, aided by Mayor Linscott, who was in the audience, prevented a panic, and the audience filed out in safety before the flames had enveloped the wooden structure. There is a lesson here for the voices which have been heard at the present session of the Massachusetts Legislature advocating an abatement of the stringency of the new **Massachusetts "theatre law,"** adopted last year while the horror of the Iroquois Theatre calamity was still fresh in mind. During the past week, also, the students of the manual training school at Haverhill, Mass., had a narrow escape from a fire which broke out while sessions were in progress.

The conference of the representatives of the **National Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents** at Chicago this week was attended with excellent results. A resolution was passed as follows, expressive of the attitude of the organization upon local rate wars:

Resolved, That the interests of the agents of the United States are concerned in local rate wars; that it is the sense of this conference that the co-operation of all agents and companies be sought in adjusting these local troubles, and that the executive officers of this association are hereby authorized to take such steps as may be necessary to promote a peaceful settlement, whenever it seems desirable to do so.

The conference decided upon Indianapolis as the place of the next annual meeting of the association, the time to be the second or third week in October, as may be decided by the executive committee. Considerable attention was given to the need for strengthening the finances of the organization, and a special committee of three was appointed to report a plan for more adequate support.

The Travelers insurance company has issued the following statement regarding its alleged relations with the **Travelers Indemnity Company:**

The gentlemen to whom the Connecticut Legislature granted a charter for the Travelers Indemnity Company have taken preliminary steps for the incorporation of the company. This has been done chiefly to save the charter from lapse under its limitations. When and to what extent the company will actively enter the field for business remains to be determined. No plans have been formulated, and none, therefore, have been communicated to anyone. Several newspapers have made conjectures of their own, so that the following paragraph has obtained somewhat wide circulation: "While the plans of the new company have not been made public, it is generally understood that it will take over the liability business of the Travelers, by which it will be controlled." This is specifically denied. It is not the purpose of the Travelers insurance company to transfer any part of its liability business to any other company, or to abridge its activity in that field in the slightest degree. The statement is utterly false and unfounded, and agents of the Travelers insurance company are requested to correct any misapprehensions that may have been formed from its publication.

The **Liability Conference** had a protracted meeting in New York on Thursday, and finally decided to abrogate the rule prohibiting competition between members in business, thus putting the bureau on a purely statistical basis and removing the main objection raised by the principal outside companies. Those attending the conference were: President George F. Seward and Theodore E. Gaty, of the Fidelity and Casualty; J. A. Lassoe, manager of the liability department of the United States Casualty; President John T. Stone and F. Highlands Burns, of the Maryland Casualty, and Manager Masters, of the London Guarantee and Accident. A new contract was ordered with Mr. Otis, the actuary, for another year, and the compilation of the experience of the members, which is regarded as of the greatest value, will be carried forward. The connection of several companies hitherto outside the organization is now expected.

Through recent efforts of the **New England Insurance Exchange** the control of fire insurance rating through stamp clerks has been pretty well established in the State of Maine, only four of its sixteen counties—Aroostook, Washington, Lincoln and Kennebec—being exempt from such jurisdiction. At Portland a stamp clerk office for Cumberland County, Knox and Sagadahoc counties also reporting to the same, has just been established; Biddeford is the stamp clerk centre for York County; Franklin and Oxford County agents report to stamp clerk at Lewiston in Androscoggin County; Hancock and Somerset County agents to Bangor in Penobscot County. It is in prospect to establish a stamp clerk office for Kennebec County at Waterville, in which case it would be more convenient to transfer the Somerset County reports to the new jurisdiction.

The Kansas Insurance Department has completed its examination of the business of the **Illinois Life insurance company,** taken over from the Kansas Mutual by reinsurance several years ago. The investigation grew out of the pending litigation to compel the Insurance Department to surrender to the Illinois Life a half million in securities held in the State treasury as a guaranty fund for the policyholders of the Kansas Mutual. The Illinois Life assumed 6,282 policies of the Kansas Mutual, of which 741 have been surrendered for their cash value, 893 have matured, 389 have lapsed and 174 have become a claim by death. New policies of the Illinois Life have been substituted for Kansas Mutual policies in 443 cases. Of the reinsured business 4,528 policies remain in force, amounting to $6,653,280.

The Illinois State Board has been complaining for some time of a lack of co-operation on the part of the **German of Freeport,** and there has been much controversy between the Illinois State Board and Illinois Field Club over the question. The State Board has now adopted a resolution providing that the German of Freeport will not be regarded as an affiliating company unless Secretary Gund makes a formal agreement that he will co-operate. Mr. Gund claims that the German has not been having a fair show, the trouble dating back to the time of its retirement from the Western Union, and that he is using every effort to keep his agents in line against bitter competition. It is possible that if the action is insisted upon it may interfere with further co-operation between the two organizations.

The **American Reserve Bond Company of Chicago,** recently formed by the consolidation of the Southern Mutual Investment Company of Lexington, Ky., the Colonial Securities Company of St. Louis and the American Investment Company of St. Louis, is charged with fraud and insolvency in a bill asking for a receiver filed at Louisville, Ky. The officials are charged with having formed the Austin Land and Lumber Company for the purposes of fraud, and that as a result of its operations the company is insolvent. The bond company has filed a counter suit against the complainants asking $50,000 damages, charging them with instigating a fictitious investigation in order to depreciate the value of its investments.

The stork has brought to the **American Birth insurance company** of Boston, which has now been in business for about a year, its first three claims. All the benefits were paid in Greater Boston, the first, of $50, going to Mrs. Kelly, of Everett, on the advent of a son; the second to Mrs. Brackett, of Jamaica Plain, who therefore calls her young citizen an "insurance baby," and the third, of $200, to Mrs. Griffin, of Boston city, also blest with a husky boy, Robert Joseph by name. The American Birth insurance company may expect to "get busy" from now on, and this paper wishes Mrs.

Estelle M. H. Merrill, president, an ample measure of success with this, one of the latest of "Boston notions."

Claiming to be the only purely mutual life insurance company on the Pacific Coast, the **Oregon Life insurance company** of Portland has been launched with $100,000 paid up capital stock. L. Samuel is founder and general manager. In the bylaws provision is made for retiring the stock after the company has been in business five years by repayment of par value on capital stock. Every policyholder will then become eligible to be a director, providing he has carried a policy of $5,000 or more for five years. All profits of the business go to the policyholders, and each policyholder can vote for election of directors, thus making it a mutual company.

The Governor of Illinois has appointed **O. B. Ryon,** of La Salle County, **special commissioner** to study the insurance problem and qualify himself as an expert in every department of insurance so as to be in position to advise the Legislature in the preparation of insurance laws when it convenes next year. An Illinois paper says of Mr. Ryon:

He is an attorney of high standing, and is considered by Governor Deneen in every way fitted for the investigation that has been undertaken. It is not known what his compensation will be, but it is understood it is sufficient to attract a lawyer with a good practice, which must be given up in part. It will be paid out of the contingent funds of the Insurance Department.

In spite of the assurance of the promoters of the new **Surplus Line Association** that it proposes to help rather than hurt the local agent, some agents are reported as anxious about the outcome. They want a definite statement as to how it will be determined whether lines are strictly surplus or not, and whether the companies will reduce their regular lines in order to get a larger share through the Surplus Line Association at a much lower commission. The association insists that it will operate only at regular rates, and that its commission will be limited to 7½ per cent.

The finance committee of the **Chicago city council** put a quietus to the **double platoon agitation,** in spite of the urgent plea by the mayor for its consideration, by agreeing to add 139 men to the department and giving a 10 per cent. increase to all firemen below the grade of marshal. The new men will be added within a few months, while the increase in salary will not take effect until December 1. This will add one man to each fire company in the service, and will give each fireman twenty-four hours off every six days instead of every twelve days.

Pleading on the indictments charging grand larceny and forgery against Frederick A. Burnham, of the **Mutual Reserve Life insurance company,** George Burnham, Jr., and George D. Eldridge, vice president of the company, which was on the calendar of Part I in the Court of General Session for Monday, went over for a week. This was caused by the absence of the defendant's counsel, former Assistant District Attorney William Rand, Jr., who is engaged with a case in the Supreme Court.

The investigation of the **Northwestern Mutual Life insurance company** has been begun by setting expert accountants at work on the books. G. P. Cronyn and E. H. Schroeder, it has been learned, have been examining the company's books for several days. The members of the legislative committee held a meeting at Milwaukee Saturday, but will give out no information until April 1, when Miles M. Dawson is expected to arrive and public sittings of the committee will begin.

A sub-committee of the **Committee of Twenty** of the National Board of Fire Underwriters is considering the question of continuing the work of the Committee of Twenty under some combination with the fire department, fire patrol and water supply committee of the National Board at a reduced expenditure. The sub-committee is composed as follows: C. F. Shallcross, Edward Milligan, W. B. Clark, E. C. Irvin, E. G. Richards, E. G. Snow and J. Montgomery Hare.

The Ohio State Fire Prevention Association claims to have secured very good results from the **block by block inspections** made by the field men in Toledo, Columbus, Youngstown and Dayton. It now proposes to do the same work in Akron and Canton, and, as there has been some objection on the part of the companies, is addressing them to secure their permission to have the field men do the work, as one day a month will suffice, and the results are very beneficial.

Managers of fire insurance companies met a committee of the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters in that city on Thursday to discuss an agreement not to pay more than **20 per cent. commission to agents** in the metropolitan district of Boston. A committee of five was appointed by the meeting to further confer with the Boston Board upon the subject. It was made up as follows: E. H. Correa, Charles L. Case, A. G. McIlwaine, H. A. Smith and George C. Howe.

The **Continental Casualty Company** has a new president in H. G. B. Alexander, who has been promoted from the office of vice president and general manager. He succeeds C. H. Bunker, resigned. L. C. Rose succeeds Franklin H. Head as vice president. Messrs. Bunker and Head will still retain an interest in the company. President Alexander's great service to the company is properly recognized by his advancement.

An Atlanta special to the *Journal of Commerce* yesterday stated that the executive committee of the **South Eastern Tariff Association,** in session, has decided upon Hot Springs, Va., as the place for the next annual meeting of the association. The date, May 16, has already been announced. Hot Springs was chosen because other conventions have arranged for hotel accommodations at the same date at other points considered.

To insure against disability by disease, sickness, accident or death the **Lookout insurance company,** with a capital stock of $5,000, has been organized at Chattanooga, Tenn. A charter has been applied for with the following incorporators: D. A. Hanson, W. M. Smith, W. P. Landon, W. A. Thompson and H. N. Hutcheson. Payments will run from $1 to $5 per week for sick benefits and $10 to $50 in case of death.

Found guilty on charges of improper conduct for furnishing the newspapers at Syracuse, N. Y., with articles defaming the members of the Supreme Council of the **Royal Arcanum,** Frank Z. Wilcox, a member of a Syracuse council and a leader of the opposition to the increased rates, has been expelled from the order, in accordance with the decision of the Supreme Regent on the findings of the committee.

The **Carolina Hail insurance company** has been organized at Marion, S. C., with $25,000 capital and the following officers: President, W. J. Montgomery; vice president, H. C. Graham; treasurer, W. H. Cross; secretary, O. K. LaRoque. The company proposes to do a hail insurance business in South Carolina only for the first year at least, and will insure practically all crops and fruits raised in the State.

At its annual meeting last week the following officers were elected by the **Macon Life Underwriters' Association:** J. Clay Murphey, president; F. R. Jones, vice president, and C. D. McClure, secretary and treasurer. The annual banquet will be held in a day or two at the Hotel Lanier, Macon.

When **C. P. Wofford** leaves the Tennessee Insurance Department on April 1 he will become vice president and agency manager of the National Life and Accident of Nashville. The company operates in Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Alabama, Mississippi and Missouri.

The **Canadian Government insurance investigation** is principally engaged at present in the examination of conditions in the Dominion Department of Insurance. Superintendent Fitzgerald and A. K. Blackadar, the department actuary, have been on the stand.

A **contract of merger** between the Armenia of Pittsburgh and Conestoga Fire of Lancaster, Pa., has been signed. The present officers of the Armenia will take charge of the amalgamated company, but, it is understood, a new name will be devised.

On the payment of $6,000 by the Equitable Life the **suit of D. H. McCarthy,** general agent in eastern Iowa, for an accounting and damages for breach of contract, has been dismissed and Mr. McCarthy has left the employ of the company.

The general agents of the surety companies represented in St. Louis, except the representative of the American Surety, have organized a **surety underwriters' association,** to regulate brokerage and bring about better conditions in the business.

The **Ohio basis rate on retail lumber yards** has been reduced from $1.25 to 75 cents. The former rate drove most of the business into the mutuals, and the stock companies are now endeavoring to get them back.

It is reported by cable from London that the **Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation** will change its name to the Ocean Assurance Corporation and take on fire insurance in addition to its present lines.

The March issue of the **Royal Arcanum** Bulletin places the membership of the order on February 28 last at 252,488, as against 305,083 at the end of last December—a decline of almost 53,000 since then.

A charter has been granted by Commissioner Clay, of Texas, to the **International Life of Fort Worth.** The capital stock is $125,000, with which it purposes to do a general life and accident business.

As a site for its new office building, to cost $150,000, the **St. Paul Fire and Marine** has purchased two lots with a frontage of 150 feet on Washington street and 120 feet on Fifth street, St. Paul.

All the **agents of Salt Lake City** are now in the local board, after demoralization extending over a number of years, and it is believed that rate cutting there is a thing of the past.

The reorganization of the **Security Fire of Baltimore** under a New Jersey charter is again talked of unless the Maryland Legislature reduces the license tax on local companies.

The **Washington Fire of Seattle** will enter New York April 1 with Lessen & Tompson, of New York city, as general agents for all territory east of the Mississippi River.

An **association of life underwriters** is being organized **at Lincoln, Neb.,** and at a preliminary meeting a committee was appointed to prepare a constitution and bylaws.

The **Dixie Fire insurance company of Greensboro, N. C.,** with an authorized capital of $500,000 and $250,000 surplus, has been granted a charter by the Secretary of State.

A bill in the Maryland Legislature proposes to incorporate the **Eastern Life insurance company,** with headquarters at Easton, Talbot County.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Home of New York: Garrett T. Burd, special agent and assistant to General Agent Francis in Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Milwaukee Mechanics: A. W. Borie, special agent for Kentucky and Tennessee, with headquarters at Louisville.

New York Fire: Dewitt C. Gritman, Western special agent, to assist General Agent Colson at Chicago.

Northwestern Mutual Life: Jesse W. Wheelock, general agent for Colorado and New Mexico, succeeding the late Oliver Williams.

Norwich Union: James M. Moran, special agent for Wisconsin and northern Michigan.

Security Fire of New Haven, Conn.: McClure Kelly, manager of the Southeastern department, including Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee, with headquarters at Atlanta.

Union of Philadelphia: Gross R. Scruggs, manager for the Southwestern department.

United States Casualty: James T. Phelps & Co., Boston, general agent metropolitan district for personal accident business, succeeding A. B. Cilley.

Mr. Charles A. Fuller, vice president of the Boston insurance company, and a brother of President Ransom B. Fuller, died March 16, after an illness of eight months, and was buried last Friday. Mr. Fuller was born at Corinth, Me., sixty-seven years ago. He was a veteran of the Civil War, member of the Legion of Honor, and a loving student of nature. He was secretary of the old Shoe and Leather insurance company of Boston up to 1884, whereupon he connected himself with the Boston (then the Boston Marine) as vice president, retaining that position to the end. Mr. Fuller devoted himself to the marine branch of the company's business, and was a recognized authority in the matter of marine insurance adjustments.

Hon. M. E. Schryver, of Polo, Ill., for more than thirty years general agent and manager for the Union Central Life insurance company for Northern Illinois, died suddenly on March 15. In the years that Mr. Schyrver was with the company he had built up a large business in that State, and in his death the company sustained a serious loss. Mr. Schryver was a man of indomitable energy and perseverance, and up to the day of his death had enjoyed the very best of health.

Mr. George I. Haas, special agent of the Atlas, is in charge of the Western department offices at present. He has been acting assistant manager during the long illness of the late Howard Grenell, and is in entire charge now, as J. M. Neuberger was taken ill the day after Mr. Grenell's death. It is expected that Mr. Haas will be permanently retained in the department offices.

Mr. Chauncey Patterson, vice president of the Agricultural insurance company of Watertown, N. Y., and one of the best known residents of that city, died there on Tuesday last. He was eighty years old. He had been in the service of the Agricultural insurance company for thirty-six years.

Mr. George B. Carter, formerly representing the *Insurance Field* in New York, who became connected with the corporation of Styles & Cash, the New York printers, has been elected vice president thereof. Mr. Carter's success is gratifying to his old friends in journalism.

Mr. Milton P. Ghee, for thirty-five years a fire insurance agent at Vincennes, Ind., died at his home March 12 from gangrene and kindred complications resulting from a seemingly harmless scratch received by a fall. He had recently celebrated his eighty-fourth birthday.

Manager T. P. Haynes, of the St. Louis agency of the Ætna Life, has resigned, and been succeeded by Mr. Estes. The late manager, it is alleged, was short in his accounts, but the company is protected by his bond.

Messrs. James M. Bloodworth and Thomas J. Heflin have been appointed managers of the Montgomery, Ala., agency of the Prudential, succeeding C. N. Avery, who has been transferred to the company's Texas field.

Mr. H. G. Hoffman, Kentucky State agent of the State Mutual Life of Worcester, secured an application on the life of Vice President Buckner of the New York Life while he was in Chicago attending the recent

conference over insurance legislation. Mr. Hoffman has since written an application from Richmond Pearson Hobson, the Merrimac hero.

Mr. Charles Meyer, the oldest Michigan agent of the Germania Fire, died March 21 at Adrian, after a long illness. He had represented the Germania and the New York Underwriters for forty years continuously.

Insurance Commissioner Cutting of Massachusetts has been confined to his home the past week, following an attack of acute indigestion, but is getting along comfortably, and should be at his desk again ere long.

Mr. Edson S. Lott, whose serious illness with pleuro-pneumonia has caused much concern to his friends in the insurance business, improved this week, and it is believed that the worst has passed.

Mr. H. M. Gibbs has been appointed superintendent of agencies for the Western and British America insurance companies of Toronto, with headquarters at the home office.

Messrs. Daniel Woodcock & Co., of New York, have been appointed general agents for the United States of the surplus line business of the Citizens Fire of Parksville, Ark.

Mr. Orlando Cady, manager at Buffalo, N. Y., for the Minnesota Life for eight years past, died at his home there March 14, aged sixty-seven years.

Messrs. Stussy Brothers have been appointed the Long Island agents, exclusive of Brooklyn, for the National Union Fire of Pittsburgh.

Capt. John H. Sherratt, secretary of the Forest City Fire of Rockford, Ill., died in a Philadelphia, Ill., hospital March 15, aged sixty-two years.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

DES MOINES, Ia., March 18.—Senate Bill No. 315, providing that insurance companies may issue health, accident and employers' liability policies, has been introduced by Mr. Whipple.

Kentucky.

FRANKFORT, Ky., March 22.—The Governor has signed the State fire warden bill. The Legislature adjourned March 13.

Maryland.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., March 22.—Mr. Melis, of Baltimore, has introduced a resolution in the House providing for an investigation of life insurance companies doing business in Maryland.

The resolution recites that, whereas the inquisitorial powers of the Insurance Commissioner are limited to the examination of the officers and agents of the companies and their books to determine their solvency chiefly, a committee of four should be appointed, which shall, after adjournment of the Legislature, investigate the affairs of life insurance companies, and particularly industrial companies, with reference to the investments of said companies, the relations of such subsidiary corporations, the government and control of said companies, the contractual relations to the policyholders, the cost of life insurance, the expenses of the companies and any other phase of the life insurance business deemed proper, for the purpose of drafting and reporting to the next session of the Legislature. The committee is given the power to enforce the attendance of witnesses, production of books and papers, and administer oaths, employ counsel and clerks for the purpose of investigation. This resolution was prepared at the instance of Governor Warfield.

A bill has been introduced in the House by Mr. Murphy, of Baltimore, which was drawn by State Insurance Commissioner Crouse. It adds several sections to the laws on insurance, and has for its purpose the collection of a tax by the State on a large amount of business that now escapes taxation entirely. Under it all policies insuring property in this State against loss or damage by fire, lightning or tornado, issued by companies not authorized to transact business in this State, are taxed 5 per cent. on the total premiums, except in cases where insurance cannot be obtained from companies authorized to do business in the State, in which cases they are exempt from this tax, but the holders are required to pay on each policy $1 to make a record of same in the Insurance Commissioner's office. It requires the Insurance Commissioner to stamp each policy so issued either "unauthorized company, tax paid," or "unauthorized company, no tax," depending on whether such policies are issued under the first section of the bill under which a tax is imposed, or the second section, which does not impose a tax. The possession of any policy issued by a non-admitted company without being so stamped is made a misdemeanor.

House Bill No. 452, introduced by Mr. Harrison, "to define the liability of fire insurance companies in certain cases," is practically a valued policy bill.

The Legislature will adjourn on April 2.

Mississippi.

JACKSON, Miss., March 21.—The House Committee on Insurance has reported favorably a bill to authorize and provide for the organization by the fire insurance companies doing business in the State of a fire prevention bureau. It is constructed on the lines of the Louisiana bureau, now in efficient service.

The committee has reported unfavorably on the Alcorn bill requiring citizens placing insurance in unlicensed foreign companies to pay a tax on the gross premiums paid by them to said companies.

New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., March 20.—The Assembly today, by a vote of 37 to 22, killed Mr. Martin's resolution for an investigation of the Prudential insurance company, thus repeating the action of the Senate last week. This ends the party faction movement started in the Legislature this session to discredit Senator Dryden, who is expected to be a candidate for re-election to the United States Senate next year.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 19.—Senate Bill 648, introduced in the Senate by Mr. Hawkins, provides that no oral or written misrepresentation or warranty, made in the negotiation of a contract or policy of fire insurance by the assured, or in his behalf, shall be deemed material to defeat or avoid the policy or prevent its attaching, unless such misrepresentation or warranty is shown affirmatively by the insurer to have been made with the actual intent to deceive and defraud, nor unless the matter misrepresented or made a warranty increased the risk of loss.

In all contracts or policies of insurance against loss by fire the conditions of insurance shall be stated in full, and no part of the application of the insured shall be considered a warranty, nor shall it or any bylaw of the insurer corporation be considered a part of the policy or contract of insurance, excepting so far as the same are incorporated in full in the policy.

No contract or policy of fire insurance shall by its terms require the insured to be a coinsurer with the company issuing said contract or policy.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 20.—The first of the Armstrong bills was reported out of committee in both Houses today, and placed

on the calendars. It was that known as Senate Bill No. 454 and Assembly Bill No. 964, and provides for the election of new trustees of mutual life insurance companies on November 15 next. The bill as revised by the Armstrong Committee, which has been in session in the city of New York this week, changes the time—fixed in the original bill as July 1—prior to which the execution of voting proxies by policyholders shall not be valid, to September 15, and provides that trustees elected on November 15 shall hold office two years. The original provision was that one-half of the trustees elected at that time should go out of office one year afterward, when their successors would then be elected. The elections are to be held under the supervision of the State Department of Insurance, which is to appoint in each case at least three policyholders to act as inspectors of the election. The boards of directors then elected must proceed forthwith to elect "new officers" respectively, the terms of office of the old expiring upon the election and qualification of their successors.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 22.—A bill by Mr. Dowling in the Assembly, increasing the tax to be paid on gross premiums collected on the insurance of surplus lines by unauthorized fire insurance companies from 3 to 7½ per cent., 4½ per cent. thereof to be paid to the Volunteer Firemen's Home at Hudson, and appointing a State agent to supervise the collection and payment of the same, has been referred to the Committee on Insurance.

Assemblyman Wemple's bill, "an act to prevent the malicious promotion of litigious claims," will be given a hearing before the Assembly Judiciary Committee on Tuesday. A number of casualty and accident underwriters from New York will attend the hearing.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 22.—Senator Brackett's bill repealing Section 59 of the insurance law, reported out of committee early this week, still remains unacted upon in Committee of the Whole in the Senate.

Senator Fitzgerald's bill relating to the powers of title guaranty corporations, reported out at the same time, has since been progressed by the Senate. It is possible that the Senate may decide to act upon the Armstrong Committee's similar bill instead of disposing of the Brackett measure.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 22.—In the Senate today when Senator Tully reported the Armstrong mutual trustees election bill for third reading a debate sprang up which indicated that the bill would meet with opposition when it was put on its final passage in the Senate next Monday night.

Senator Grady demanded the reason for the apparent haste in pressing this particular bill. Senator Tully explained that it was the desire of the committee to anticipate the coming annual election of the New York life insurance companies, which would be held on April 11 unless postponed to November 15 by the enactment of this law.

Senator Malby said: "I propose to exercise deliberate judgment on the insurance bills. Every blow struck at the insurance companies is a blow at ourselves. Being a policyholder five or six times over, I don't propose to bite off my nose to spite my face. The time is ripe for intelligent action. I ask for careful consideration of the bills before they are passed, not afterward. It is a time for conservatism."

Senator Brackett said that it was just that conservative action that had led to the most colossal corruption that the world had ever known. It is time to restore the insurance companies to the people to whom they belong. The bill ought to be amended so as to make the present trustees ineligible ever to hold office again, and their offenses ought then to be punished by the courts.

"Can the Legislature prohibit a man not convicted of a felony from holding office?" asked Senator McCarren.

"I think we can," replied Senator Brackett.

Senator Hinman asked whether the giving of a proxy did not involve a contract which could not be broken.

Senator Brackett replied it was not a contract, but a mere power of attorney. Turning to Malby, Brackett said:

"I am surprised at the solicitude which the Senator displays concerning the turning out of office of the present trustees and the giving up of companies to the men who own them."

"One of the insurance bills," said Malby, "proposes to perpetuate the contest among the policyholders, and I'm prepared to object to that."

Senator Brackett proceeded to abuse the present trustees and officers of insurance companies, and included in his denunciations the Senators who opposed reform, and District Attorney Jerome, whom he accused of being asleep while crime was rampant.

"I have no desire to provoke a spasm of insurance virtue," Senator Malby responded, sarcastically. "I have no apologies to make for my motives in the past, and no Russian with a bull whip, no red hot irons, no electrical storm of denunciation will disturb me much. Look at the report of the committee which came to us three weeks ago under the guarantee of letter perfect. Now the committee has hied itself to New York city, and the word has gone forth that as a result of the hearings there are many amendments to be made. I for one believe that when they have done their work it will still be possible to inject a little grain of sense into these bills."

The bill was then made a special order for Monday night on third reading. It was not advanced in the Assembly.

Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 22.—The Senate Committee has recommended the passage of Senator Wade's bill, No. 236, limiting the newspaper charge for publishing the annual statements of insurance companies to $2.

Samuel Untermyer, of New York, counsel for Thomas W. Lawson and an "international policyholders' association," so called, spoke before the House Insurance Committee on Wednesday night in favor of the sixteen insurance bills drafted on the lines of those of the Armstrong Committee in New York. Mr. Untermyer scored the life insurance managers in New York with many expletives in the Lawson and Brackett style.

United States Congress.

A bill from the House Judiciary Committee affecting employers' liability companies is accompanied by the following memorandum:

The purpose of the bill is to change the common law liability of employers of labor in their line of employment for personal injuries received by employees in the service. It relaxes the strict common law rule of liability which bars a recovery of damages for the personal injury or death of an employee occasioned by the negligence of a fellow servant, and also that common law rule which makes contributory negligence a defense to claims for such injuries, however slight such negligence may be on the part of the plaintiff, and however gross on the part of the defendant. It permits a recovery by an employee for an injury caused by the negligence of a co-employee; nor is such a recovery barred even though the injured one contributed by his own negligence to the injury, provided his negligence is slight and that of the co-employee is gross in comparison. The amount of recovery, however, is diminished in the same degree that the negligence of the injured one contributed to the injury. It makes both parties responsible for their own negligence. It also renders

void any contract intended to restrict the liability of the employer for the negligence of the employee.

Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., March 16.—The legislative session of 1906 was adjourned sine die on Thursday, March 15, and only a single insurance measure got through both Houses. This was House Bill No. 176, creating a bureau of insurance and defining its duties and powers.

Col. Joseph Button, clerk of the Senate, was elected Commissioner at a salary of $3,500 for a term of four years from July 1, 1906. Colonel Button will shortly visit States having up to date insurance departments for the purpose of familiarizing himself with his new work.

There were numerous bills offered in both Houses, but they were killed either in committees or in one branch or the other. Among these were bills re-enacting the Wharton anti-compact law, abolishing the three-fourths value clause in fire policies, making the amount set out in a fire policy prima facie evidence of the value of the property insured, requiring companies when securing charters to enter into bond with approved security of $10,000 that they will deposit bonds with the Treasurer as required by law, requiring life insurance companies doing business in Virginia to annually pay dividends on their profits to shareholders. These were all that were offered of public interest, and several of them caused sharp fights.

The South Eastern Tariff Association is now doing business as usual, with no prospects of being disturbed for two years, unless there shall be an extra session, which is altogether unlikely.

Miscellany.

Federal Supervision Impossible—Unanimous Report of the House Judiciary Committee in Congress.

The Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives, which is composed of the Messrs. John J. Jenkins, of Wisconsin, chairman; Richard W. Parker, of New Jersey; De Alva S. Alexander, of New York; Charles E. Littlefield, of Maine; Robert M. Nevin, of Ohio; Henry W. Palmer, of Pennsylvania; George A. Pearre, of Maryland; James N. Gillett, of California; Charles Q. Tirrell, of Massachusetts; John A. Sterling, of Illinois; Benjamin P. Birdsall, of Iowa; John H. Foster, of Indiana; David A. DeArmond, of Missouri; David H. Smith, of Kentucky; Henry D. Clayton, of Alabama; Robert L. Henry, of Texas; John S. Little, of Arkansas, and William G. Brantley, of Georgia, has agreed upon a report on the question of Federal supervision of insurance which was submitted to it by a resolution of the House. The report is written by Chairman Jenkins, and is practically concurred in by all the members of the committee. It holds that there is no constitutional authority for Federal control of insurance.

The report collates all the important court decisions on the questions involved, treats each exhaustively and reduces the whole problem to these two principles:

The Supreme Court of the United States has declared and has never been shaken or weakened in maintaining, first, that insurance is not commerce, and, second, that Congress cannot impair the police powers of the States.

As to the latter principle the report says:

Let it be said kindly and not offensively that it is a monstrous doctrine, subversive of our dual system of government, to even suggest, after the distribution of these great powers between the Federal Government and the States, that the Federal Government, created by the States, can take from the States the power they have always enjoyed and expressly reserved to them by the Constitution exclusive in the States Hamilton himself never made such a claim.

The Supreme Court has had great difficulty in marking the boundary line in each case as it has arisen between the police power of the State and the commerce clause of the Federal Constitution. In each case jealously protecting each power as they came in conflict, and not until now, in a moment of excitement and intense interest, has it ever been suggested that Congress can impair the police power of the States.

Answering the argument that the Supreme Court would reverse itself if the question were again presented the report says:

If this is correct, then there is no necessity for any action by Congress. The question can again be presented to the Supreme Court, as it has many times in the past. Then Congress will be relieved of the charge that the legislative branch of the Government is trying to coerce the judicial branch of the Government; and the important constitutional question that Congress cannot impair the police power of the States will be removed from the case; and Congress, by failing or refusing to act, cannot prevent consideration of the question.

The report sets forth Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution as conferring the only power possessed by Congress to regulate commerce, and says:

Commerce is more than traffic. It includes navigation, intercourse, transportation of passengers, interchange and transportation of commodities or visible and tangible things, transmission by telegraph, electrical transmission of articulate speech by telephone.

The question as to whether or not insurance is commerce has passed beyond the realm of argument, because the Supreme Court of the United States has said many times for a great number of years that insurance is not commerce. Insurance was well known long before the Constitution was adopted, and insurance companies in active operation in this country long before the adoption of the Constitution, and ever since the adoption of the Constitution it has not been recognized as an article of commerce.

Of the results that would follow Congressional interference the report says:

It is useless to live in hopes that the Supreme Court of the United States will reverse its holding, but assuming that Congress declares that insurance is commerce and the Supreme Court holds the legislation constitutional, how much could Congress regulate and what effect would such legislation have? It would disturb the very substructure of government by precipitating a violent conflict between the police power of the States and the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce. To uphold the Federal power would be to extinguish the police power of the State by the legislation of Congress. In other words, Congress would admit corporations into the respective States and have the entire regulating powers.

Now the States have the exclusive power of admission and regulation. If the States have the sole power of admission and regulation what is there for Congress to regulate? A corporation created by the laws of the State of New York is denied admission into any other State. There is no pretense that Congress can invade the State of New York and regulate that corporation in its business. The power of the State is exclusive, and the corporation would be beyond the regulating power of Congress, even if Congress declared insurance to be commerce and the Supreme Court held the act constitutional. But assuming that this same corporation is admitted into every State in the Union on satisfactory terms and conditions, it would be beyond and not within reach of the regulating power of Congress.

The advocates of Federal supervision admit and concede that it is entirely optional with the States to admit or exclude insurance corporations. Hence it follows that the State has entire power to regulate, and a declaration of the Supreme Court, with or without legislation, that insurance is commerce would not give Congress anything to regulate. The business can be carried on without commercial transit, and it is only during commercial transit Federal power can be exercised. It is conceded that when a State admits a foreign corporation its rights are the same as a domestic corporation within the limits of the State as long as the law is complied with. Hence this excludes any action of Congress in any event. The State agent can get his policies printed in the State his company has entered, and money enough can

be kept in the State to pay the death losses. The only thing in commercial transit would be money shipped from time to time, and this would not give Congress any control over the corporation or its business.

Again, the company could incorporate in any or all of the States of the Union. In that event the power of Congress could never attach. No authority has been cited to prove that the Federal Government has any visitorial power over corporations it does not create.

The difficulty of administering Federal regulations is emphasized as follows:

What can Congress act upon under its power to regulate interestate commerce? Congress cannot prevent the making of a contract of insurance between a company in New York and a resident of Oregon. After the contract is made, when will the power of Congress attach, and to what? The policy and premium are not merchandise. As the power of Congress does not attach until the merchandise is in commercial transit, it could not become active until the policy and premium start on their journey and would terminate when the place of destination is reached, and the duty and power of Congress would be to protect both in transit, and that is the limit of Congressional power. This act of transportation does not enable the Federal power to reach the corporations, and as the Federal power would not know when or how the policy or premium were to be transported, and as it cannot annul the contract, it would have to be made a criminal offense, and an American citizen would have to be convicted of crime for making provision for his family.

Controversy Between Andrew Hamilton and the Trustees of the New York Life Insurance Company.

The resolution of the trustees of the New York Life insurance company to sue Andrew Hamilton for restitution to the company of the moneys paid him for legislative services has been reaffirmed and Mr. Hamilton has been served with the papers in the suit.

On Wednesday Mr. Hamilton addressed to the special investigating committee of the company, of which Trustee Fowler is chairman, the following letter:

GENTLEMEN—I am replying to the only communication received by me from your body since my return. It is doubtless quite evident that by this time you should be yourselves satisfied that the statements contained in your report of February 7, 1906, in regard to your examination of my accounts, are seriously wrong, and that when you rushed into print in order that you might wear a newspaper halo you had not, as your report incorrectly states, obtained all the information about this subject that is accessible. Your published interviews, which I take to be correct, because I know the facts so covered, betray a startling loss of memory during your deliberations upon the subject of the weekly audit for years of my accounts by some members of your committee, and from time to time by other members of the board of trustees. Documents in the company's office files, if they have not been suppressed, official action spread upon the records of your proceedings, and correspondence to which you must certainly have had access, have been deliberately ignored by you to give to the Paris policy fee account and to the refunded New York premium tax collections a false color upon which to base your unwarranted accusations.

Notwithstanding this, I was prepared to accept the suggestion contained in your letter, "Will you walk into my parlor, says the spider to the fly," when you practically retreated from your position in choosing to proceed by the commencement of a civil action against me. I can appreciate that the events of the past week, so far as I have participated in them, are not perhaps calculated to put you in a judicial state of mind. I will, therefore, accept your latest challenge, and meet you in a tribunal where there will be no vanity to be tickled, and the scales will be held on an even balance.

Yours truly,

ANDREW HAMILTON.

RETORT OF THE FOWLER COMMITTEE.

The Fowler investigating committee held a meeting on Thursday under the acting chairmanship of Clarence H. Mackay, and prepared a reply to which publicity was given yesterday.

In its letter the committee gives the correspondence that passed between it and its agents in Paris relative to its effort to bring Mr. Hamilton back, and the letter it sent to Hamilton in Albany on his return, notifying him of its willingness that he should appear before it. Continuing the letter says:

The main question before the committee as to your matters was what had you done with the company's moneys amounting to about $1,300,000, which in one way or another had come into your hands during the past ten years. You alone could tell as to the great bulk of them. Something over $100,000 appears from your vouchers to have been paid to you for legal services. Your receipts for the $600,000 or thereabouts received for what has been called your legislative bureau were simply receipts in the ordinary form, and threw no light on what you had done with the money.

Even if every one of these receipts had been examined by the auditing committee from time to time they disclosed nothing as to the particular uses to which you put the money or the persons to whom you paid it. They simply show that sums of money from time to time were being paid to one who was a lawyer retained and engaged in the legal service of the company.

NO RECORD OF SECRET SERVICE WORK.

They did not show, nor did any records or books of the company, that there was a legislative or secret service bureau, or that you were engaged in any such work. You have, moreover, failed to observe that out of the $1,300,000, over $500,000 is not claimed to have been received by you in connection with your legislative work.

The vouchers you signed for the various sums aggregating $235,000, which Mr. McCall repaid because you did not, read that you were to account for them. At that time you were acting in a legal capacity for the company in connection with its real estate purchases and mortgage loans. There was no reason for any one of the auditing committee to suspect that you would not account in accordance with the terms of the vouchers, though you have not done so.

Then there is the sum of $75,000 you used out of the check given you in June, 1904, with which to pay the company's State tax, and which you deposited to your own credit in your bank and checked against. That use by you of this sum never came before any auditing or other committee. The same is true of the $90,386.47 you received in 1905 out of the company's credit with the State for the overpayment of its franchise tax in previous years.

NO MENTION OF AGREEMENT.

The resolution of the finance committee to which you refer does not mention the agreement under which you claim that sum. It simply authorized the president to execute "assignments of part or parts of the tax credit awarded to the company against the State of New York in payment of the expenses attending such award or for cash payments upon any transfer to a purchaser of an interest therein." You can read the condemnation of that whole transaction in the report of the Armstrong Committee, which is much more sweeping than anything that was said by this committee in its report of February 7, 1906.

The same is true with respect to the sums remitted to you from Paris: September 14, 1900, $50,000; October 4, 1900, $20,000; November 27, 1902, $25,000; April 1, 1903, $25.000, and November 19, 1903, $14,500, a total of $134,500.

The directions to make these payments to you and your receipts for them were never before any auditing or other committee, and there were no entries on the books here of any kind concerning them. Until this committee directed whatever papers there were pertaining to these payments to be sent here, on information that payments had been made from Paris, they had laid in the Paris office. They disclosed nothing but the fact of payment to you, and refer in no way to the purpose or purposes for which the money was directed to be remitted. You alone can furnish the information showing what was done with these sums.

The letter concludes with the statement that the committee devoted fully seven weeks to consideration of Mr. Hamilton's affairs, called for every paper and document in the files of the company or anywhere else that could possibly in any way bear upon them; sought for information from every quarter where there was likely to be any, including himself, and its report was the result of a careful conservative study of all the information

(*Continued on page* 225.)

Life Insurance Business in Michigan in 1905.

(Compiled from the Preliminary Report of the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Companies of Michigan.						
Imperial, Detroit...	----	--------	2	$400	--------	--------
Mich. Mut., Detroit	850	$1,271,503	5,711	9,535,717	$336,092	$151,094
Totals.....	850	$1,271,503	5,713	$9,536,117	$336,092	$151,094
Companies of Other States.						
Ætna	609	$1,323,839	3,671	$5,792,832	$235,977	$69,420
American Central..	136	179,500	202	275,765	9,212	2,143
Berkshire	136	341,000	1,408	3,340,550	101,983	36,638
Canada Life.....	443	633,130	2,139	4,747,750	160,945	38,362
Central, Des Moines	118	118,275	151	197,300	8,517	525
Chicago Life.....	116	131,984	121	168,559	5,812	--------
Columbian Nat.....	66	251,980	54	201,980	5,284	--------
Conn. Mutual.....	137	296,496	1,478	2,963,486	85,608	101,118
Des Moines Life...	73	86,236	160	176,236	7,520	2,000
Equitable, N. Y....	850	1,470,107	7,148	15,656,011	555,115	246,850
Equitable, Ia.....	177	212,500	670	818,995	31,591	375
Federal Life.....	149	255,500	385	621,145	32,759	17,000
Fidelity Mutual....	331	545,110	1,510	2,635,603	97,751	30,673
Franklin, Ill.....	229	264,076	513	597,981	25,720	2,023
Germania	87	129,460	684	1,035,147	52,780	12,111
Hartford Life.....	112	144,212	354	587,592	22,640	7,000
Home, N. Y.....	833	1,103,028	4,129	7,016,142	260,660	129,359
Illinois Life.....	588	747,065	1,227	1,575,622	52,227	14,000
Inter-State, Ind....	113	333,000	130	470,875	23,429	--------
John Hancock.....	358	501,094	1,528	2,385,501	82,649	18,188
Manhattan	35	104,250	493	851,110	29,300	8,218
Manufacturers, Ont	249	349,588	419	582,750	18,281	1,000
Massachusetts Mut.	1,986	2,839,760	10,499	16,445,056	568,674	135,078
Metropolitan	4,048	2,525,450	9,360	6,310,647	*888,213	36,225
Minnesota Mutual..	25	44,607	131	306,190	9,464	4,000
Missouri State.....	262	401,354	398	580,635	18,079	1,036
Mutual, N. Y.....	1,474	2,815,832	11,075	22,314,726	803,781	315,242
Mutual Benefit.....	1,445	2,343,246	6,023	12,523,524	489,268	216,303
National, Vt.....	579	818,631	2,611	4,545,033	176,737	24,952
National U. S. A..	191	185,059	1,685	1,138,093	86,917	7,144
New England Mut.	352	780,680	1,952	4,014,900	132,815	15,455
New York Life....	3,787	5,760,500	20,216	32,384,978	1,203,549	384,317
N. American, Can..	361	558,388	861	1,263,618	42,032	7,000
North Western Mut	2,742	5,080,181	17,508	33,468,577	1,382,090	386,949
Pacific Mutual.....	87	136,000	525	823,883	29,384	--------
Penn Mutual.....	442	601,773	3,186	5,375,126	228,129	75,708
Phœnix Mutual....	204	286,438	2,404	3,599,439	156,203	38,620
Pittsburgh L. & T.	2	400	81	40,222	2,186	500
Prov. L. and T....	227	382,601	1,293	2,277,445	88,768	53,969
Provident Savings..	369	939,195	780	2,035,768	73,057	19,500
Prudential	2,339	2,038,492	6,287	6,628,765	256,928	55,630
Reliance	11	16,500	24	42,000	1,749	--------
Royal Union.....	79	111,833	259	399,828	18,131	12,795
Security Mutual...	118	154,960	423	633,163	21,908	4,300
Security T. and L..	45	106,682	223	372,529	16,124	19,070
Scandia, Chicago...	18	15,000	393	331,262	5,817	2,512
State Life, Ind....	444	719,343	899	1,685,172	54,071	8,000
State Mut., Mass..	463	887,815	2,287	4,486,973	144,933	45,884
Sun Life, Canada..	2,812	1,915,979	6,347	4,648,376	187,402	20,636
Travelers	213	594,962	1,935	5,283,904	161,962	53,010
Union Central.....	510	679,610	2,450	3,369,533	118,979	22,379
Union Mutual.....	133	177,285	1,244	1,564,061	53,217	15,653
United States.....	31	47,500	243	485,525	15,185	7,230
Totals.....	31,744	$43,487,486	142,176	$232,077,883	$9,341,514	$2,726,101
Grand Totals, 1905.	32,594	$44,758,989	147,889	$241,614,000	$9,677,605	$2,877,196
" " 1904.	35,611	48,336,988	137,544	229,944,471	9,130,917	2,450,706
" " 1903.	34,160	46,204,013	124,257	211,087,286	8,373,005	2,606,510
" " 1902.	30,231	43,702,155	111,613	198,638,884	7,673,438	2,329,247
" " 1901.	24,332	37,115,133	95,054	175,672,423	6,706,251	2,452,510
" " 1900.	19,613	29,043,450	83,213	158,174,154	5,594,511	2,107,741
" " 1899.	17,341	26,035,542	74,764	146,055,516	5,223,574	2,098,104
" " 1898.	14,454	23,497,880	66,042	134,019,721	4,626,530	1,710,059
" " 1897.	11,926	20,637,021	59,741	125,918,326	4,482,302	1,820,599
" " 1896.	9,178	18,517,030	54,927	120,983,000	4,044,720	1,504,182
" " 1895.	8,368	18,775,950	52,871	119,717,377	4,356,715	1,628,853
" " 1894.	9,334	20,747,445	50,050	115,950,858	4,296,071	1,146,368
" " 1893.	10,431	22,925,500	49,185	112,568,528	4,033,723	1,249,993
" " 1892.	10,281	24,070,070	47,726	109,674,344	3,789,817	1,498,614
" " 1891.	8,763	21,809,978	42,883	107,990,541	3,715,810	1,046,431
" " 1890.	7,790	19,885,268	45,119	102,171,651	3,349,978	988,926
" " 1889.	6,822	19,693,400	37,754	84,185,632	2,851,235	778,740
" " 1888.	6,661	14,366,236	35,710	75,498,910	2,458,140	805,199
" " 1887.	5,920	12,566,690	33,122	69,254,562	2,200,042	778,717
" " 1886.	5,982	11,867,550	------	63,634,641	2,038,691	662,268
" " 1885.	4,219	9,294,458	------	58,000,194	1,775,240	887,488
" " 1884.	4,325	9,031,411	------	54,706,017	1,787,763	809,365
" " 1883.	4,841	10,641,232	------	62,863,826	1,651,013	641,108
" " 1882.	4,478	8,983,793	------	47,778,668	1,462,649	703,871
" " 1881.	3,543	7,725,618	------	42,782,277	1,218,531	638,826
" " 1880.	2,901	5,597,714	------	39,441,212	1,052,763	448,636
" " 1879.	2,657	4,208,078	------	38,650,797	1,008,965	520,147

Industrial business in 1905: John Hancock Mutual, policies issued, 5,149; amount, $848,011; Metropolitan, policies issued, 44,443; amount, $6,867,987; Prudential, policies issued, 31,540; amount, $3,803,555.

Assessment associations and fraternal orders wrote in Michigan in 1904 61,954 certificates, insuring $56,427,323.

Life Insurance Business in New Jersey in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report by the Commissioner of Insurance.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Companies of New Jersey.						
Colonial	821	$821,098	2,247	$2,316,950	$79,721	$13,955
Mutual Benefit.....	1,195	3,478,426	8,437	22,771,533	803,605	722,065
Prudential	10,423	12,190,318	43,091	53,344,719	1,721,560	350,022
Totals.....	12,439	$16,489,842	53,775	$78,433,202	$2,604,886	$1,086,042
Companies of Other States and Countries.						
Ætna	392	$1,135,870	3,067	$6,999,635	$186,763	$124,879
Berkshire	89	211,900	664	2,004,215	52,215	33,989
Columbian National	185	917,506	307	1,689,436	27,773	250
Conn. General.....	88	283,057	141	412,812	14,979	--------
Conn. Mutual.....	204	612,195	993	3,111,764	60,336	91,658
Equitable, N. Y...	1,929	7,098,773	14,227	45,815,643	1,649,104	621,172
Fidelity Mutual....	273	578,861	1,471	2,740,967	75,155	15,353
Germania	84	196,212	481	1,140,960	37,320	27,040
Hartford	9	12,971	884	1,441,220	44,319	42,000
Home, N. Y.....	152	487,147	797	2,310,097	64,362	46,129
John Hancock.....	1,149	1,375,420	1,960	2,937,011	103,593	32,960
Manhattan	93	207,065	794	1,609,988	60,179	32,754
Mass. Mutual.....	297	860,000	1,776	6,028,306	170,302	68,075
Metropolitan	10,152	7,345,325	30,830	26,076,282	1,072,932	232,950
Michigan Mutual...	67	99,744	377	532,701	16,635	2,580
Mutual Life, N. Y.	622	1,309,202	10,669	21,734,350	693,085	830,714
Mutual Reserve....	3,032	1,706,405	3,688	3,350,163	132,786	62,508
National, Vt.....	99	304,135	445	1,189,180	43,369	35,035
New Eng. Mutual..	91	360,451	447	1,716,873	59,135	66,000
New York Life....	3,322	8,314,285	17,044	37,755,271	1,023,000	624,054
N. American, Can.	1	1,000	2	2,000	78	--------
Northw'n Mutual..	633	2,081,826	4,694	14,488,893	283,919	124,327
Pacific Mutual.....	36	90,436	132	270,129	9,078	1,071
Penn Mutual.....	608	2,607,448	1,972	5,957,817	204,104	48,975
Phœnix Mutual....	180	506,517	820	1,669,824	43,942	21,561
Presbyt'n Ministers.	117	148,000	217	276,493	3,858	--------
Prov. L. and T....	512	1,240,995	5,374	13,512,928	484,949	128,734
Provident Savings..	636	511,034	1,175	2,109,508	67,874	34,081
Reliance, Pittsburgl	3	2,500	10	9,500	467	--------
Security Mutual..	60	147,078	322	700,364	13,358	18,906
Security T. & L..	35	68,100	417	738,842	27,169	10,621
State, Ind.....	18	72,095	55	217,095	6,733	--------
State Mutual, Mass.	151	487,070	1,192	4,156,655	139,001	49,743
Sun, Canada.....	24	12,898	230	189,203	5,915	1,096
Travelers	169	344,892	817	1,924,365	64,600	62,285
Union Central.....	52	129,000	384	1,178,280	26,029	13,500
Union Mutual.....	105	197,560	543	1,218,415	37,130	10,766
United States.....	134	241,205	608	1,498,489	45,896	56,145
Washington	143	405,331	1,308	3,238,480	125,791	112,724
Totals.....	25,946	$42,711,509	111,334	$223,954,154	$7,177,234	$3,684,636
Grand Totals, 1905.	38,385	$59,201,351	165,109	$302,387,356	$9,782,120	$4,770,679
" " 1904.	39,324	60,923,139	152,736	286,097,736	9,181,032	4,034,127
" " 1903.	35,191	55,968,689	137,700	261,379,019	8,424,589	4,446,159
" " 1902.	35,981	50,980,351	125,965	242,155,477	7,770,808	3,900,013
" " 1901.	25,584	41,569,398	108,187	217,098,962	6,932,371	3,222,268
" " 1900.	24,707	46,752,202	96,210	202,726,079	6,674,162	2,811,875
" " 1899.	23,312	40,092,602	85,318	181,153,206	5,934,759	2,868,512
" " 1898.	19,463	33,971,302	72,758	161,107,561	5,015,893	1,871,598
" " 1897.	16,448	31,119,712	64,350	147,712,266	4,579,000	2,207,376
" " 1896.	12,730	26,092,914	58,150	137,208,105	4,198,994	2,061,423
" " 1895.	12,402	25,976,768	52,772	127,664,830	3,914,663	1,939,873
" " 1894.	11,448	25,400,146	47,020	116,093,219	3,555,534	2,018,325
" " 1893.	9,294	22,271,853	42,538	107,332,875	3,327,980	1,693,555
" " 1892.	9,487	19,462,905	39,733	98,463,111	3,077,523	1,808,884
" " 1891.	6,574	17,585,571	36,608	95,364,693	2,909,680	1,737,889
" " 1890.	6,567	18,197,301	34,605	89,351,659	2,700,957	1,505,633
" " 1889.	5,918	17,591,087	31,512	82,219,872	2,474,626	1,427,511
" " 1888.	4,824	13,736,696	27,696	71,353,506	2,202,941	1,506,705
" " 1887.	4,323	11,443,314	25,688	65,423,769	1,999,862	1,206,337
" " 1886.	4,319	10,583,910	23,448	59,528,479	1,750,092	1,039,486
" " 1885.	5,866	6,113,890	24,209	53,990,668	1,581,994	1,199,926
" " 1884.	4,181	7,359,850	21,696	51,710,888	1,111,502	1,186,420
" " 1883.	2,830	7,984,183	19,665	49,378,755	1,000,455	782,028
" " 1882.	2,384	6,242,007	18,921	45,419,209	972,025	988,012

INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS.

Colonial	31,478	$3,565,417	57,108	$6,786,352	$250,815	$74,841
Columbian National	4,344	571,688	1,550	195,112	6,163	1,240
Germania	----	--------	168	19,553	926	943
John Hancock.....	21,079	3,390,068	76,447	12,689,562	468,041	166,053
Metropolitan	106,816	17,083,600	654,059	90,169,765	2,942,726	1,047,322
Prudential	148,036	19,225,088	898,553	102,354,383	3,931,173	1,352,813
Reliance	4,263	677	----	--------	921	648
Totals, 1905.....	316,016	$43,836,538	1687885	$212,214,727	$7,600,765	$2,643,860
" 1904.....	303,975	43,261,686	1596191	199,544,819	7,438,337	2,630,164
" 1903.....	288,418	40,963,607	1509498	187,131,612	6,938,905	2,366,073
" 1902.....	291,066	40,262,378	1429684	175,411,071	6,298,564	2,099,518
" 1901.....	297,550	40,450,938	1342767	160,895,499	5,895,466	2,049,022
" 1900.....	316,186	42,272,123	1268360	152,132,848	5,475,488	1,991,627
" 1899.....	304,143	39,630,433	1130937	138,867,330	5,097,719	1,744,709
" 1898.....	246,069	32,965,624	1061469	126,327,694	4,797,992	1,660,820
" 1897.....	293,578	41,064,101	1007905	121,260,702	4,527,330	1,434,004
" 1896.....	268,970	34,022,248	958,866	111,725,100	4,666,961	1,547,956
" 1895.....	299,250	36,720,996	930,598	107,100,813	4,332,976	1,498,997
" 1894.....	437,421	53,102,955	928,426	106,323,329	4,230,993	1,357,298
" 1893.....	302,603	37,387,393	841,472	95,381,659	3,819,343	1,285,626

Fire Insurance Business in New Jersey in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Stock Companies of New Jersey.			
American, Newark	$22,230,061	$158,927	$60,731
Atlantic City Fire, Atlantic City	968,530	25,777	995
Camden Fire, Camden	9,637,700	103,955	38,587
Eastern Fire, Atlantic City	1,653,898	27,752	9,493
Federal, Jersey City	2,920,016	20,115	6,066
Firemen's, Newark	17,878,780	141,437	51,284
National Fire and Marine, Elizabeth	1,483,732	17,530	6,044
Newark Fire, Newark	7,699,324	59,506	14,935
New Brunswick Fire, New Brunswick	2,767,931	22,538	7,936
Standard Fire, Trenton	10,751,633	120,668	53,954
Totals	$77,991,606	$698,206	$250,024
Companies of Other States.			
Ætna, Hartford	$22,349,875	$190,040	$91,163
Agricultural, Watertown	6,749,400	56,856	17,274
Allemannia Fire, Pittsburgh	1,563,671	17,944	5,646
American, Boston	1,481,339	13,918	4,502
American Central, St. Louis	1,671,616	26,230	11,403
American Fire, Philadelphia	8,121,893	87,752	61,753
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	1,054,637	19,200	12,646
Assurance Co. of America, N. Y.	2,086,211	16,085	8,497
Boston, Boston	4,710,155	50,242	21,484
British-American, New York	365,450	3,921	4,510
Bucks Co. Contributionship, Pa.	158,650	4,750	124
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	1,160,324	10,812	2,394
Buffalo German, Buffalo	1,512,655	12,105	3,530
Caledonian-American, New York	669,284	5,467	2,549
Calumet, Chicago	99,450	1,897	62
Capital Fire, Concord	549,313	5,887	1,322
Citizens, St. Louis	3,900,926	46,355	23,238
City of New York, New York	543,334	6,351	377
Colonial, New York	284,445	3,979	------
Commerce, Albany	581,715	6,342	3,016
Commercial Union Fire, New York	595,611	6,521	3,390
Concordia Fire, Milwaukee	813,101	10,775	8,257
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	10,656,600	96,458	45,631
Continental, New York	20,546,824	183,444	74,036
County Fire, Philadelphia	378,418	3,790	1,474
Delaware, Philadelphia	3,824,757	41,858	18,319
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	1,851,585	22,309	13,813
Eagle Fire, New York	4,675,857	46,439	4,968
Empire City Fire, New York	2,316,386	30,451	11,267
Equitable F. and M., Providence	2,441,819	25,447	8,495
Farmers Fire, York, Pa.	1,885,920	24,159	15,196
Fire Association of Philadelphia	13,180,147	141,884	62,455
F. Ins. Co. of North'pton Co., Pa.	291,933	2,569	2,378
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	7,759,515	79,199	40,683
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	4,383,519	42,788	30,425
German, Freeport, Ill	4,814,650	48,488	31,975
German Alliance, New York	2,255,077	21,753	4,623
German-American, New York	33,092,224	274,056	150,760
Germania Fire, New York	25,935,266	193,718	66,569
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	2,517,121	22,137	13,969
Glens Falls, Glens Falls, N. Y.	7,182,759	70,016	21,218
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	8,952,961	131,515	72,926
Hanover Fire, New York	10,985,470	115,247	44,070
Hartford Fire, Hartford	34,480,082	321,124	142,123
Home, New York	43,509,433	375,755	254,726
Home Fire and Marine, San Francisco	2,081,071	23,497	7,801
Indemnity Fire, New York	474,559	4,814	2,289
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	44,592	1,159	8
Insurance Co. of North America	15,904,934	156,860	66,425
Mechanics, Philadelphia	442,760	5,448	3,826
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	2,169,762	21,903	2,812
National Fire, Hartford	16,113,660	140,834	76,880
National Union Fire, Pittsburgh	5,961,583	57,530	11,886
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	5,979,611	60,222	23,788
New York Fire, New York	3,432,244	29,793	13,412
Niagara Fire, New York	15,495,650	142,946	53,225
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	1,033,462	6,298	2,432
North German Fire, New York	983,832	14,653	3,244
North River, New York	9,731,656	107,439	32,740
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	2,268,217	16,667	4,693
Orient, Hartford	3,870,425	22,703	8,480
Pacific Fire, New York	1,415,790	24,732	18,315
Pelican, New York	1,169,766	10,416	10,999
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	11,767,253	117,384	67,694
Phenix, New York	17,700,863	187,756	74,247
Phœnix, Hartford	9,166,664	79,316	27,019
Providence-Washington, Providence	5,829,504	59,415	32,180
Queen, New York	11,648,053	98,732	53,865
Queen City Fire, Sioux Falls, S. D.	238,716	4,234	566
Rochester German, Rochester	2,761,636	32,546	15,822
Security Fire, Baltimore	1,274,600	14,152	6,700
Security, New Haven	1,477,165	10,811	6,116
Springfield F. & M., Springfield, Mass.	14,131,370	154,279	56,829
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	4,436,121	59,749	24,019
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	8,183,257	64,674	40,874
Star Fire, Louisville	584,745	19,750	9,652
Stuyvesant, New York	1,684,639	26,401	19,736
Teutonia, New Orleans	2,840,145	22,699	14,598
Traders, Chicago	3,473,368	37,136	15,485
Union, Philadelphia	2,358,801	21,253	9,286
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	1,950,860	24,254	6,955
United States Fire, New York	1,741,325	26,232	8,431
Westchester Fire, New York	12,648,791	111,444	40,735
Western, Pittsburgh	2,487,484	22,287	11,575
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	4,567,762	48,638	21,170
Totals	$520,468,073	$4,999,091	$2,326,048
Foreign Companies.			
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$3,504,780	$35,619	$16,577
Atlas, London	4,394,228	41,743	13,803
British-America, Toronto	2,981,231	30,102	13,034
Caledonian, Edinburgh	4,327,576	39,546	18,927
Cologne Reinsurance, Cologne	4,855,999	51,047	31,389
Commercial Union, London	15,005,103	112,283	73,658
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	5,206,471	55,431	25,053
Law Union and Crown, London	1,363,341	12,919	6,058
Liverpool and London and Globe	32,526,028	324,434	228,100
London Assurance Corporation	6,125,567	52,052	22,997
Lond. and Lancashire Fire, Liverpool	7,673,507	57,295	13,156
Munich Reinsurance, Bavaria, Ger.	10,848,776	126,846	104,759
North British and Mercantile, London	15,603,621	134,742	64,959
Northern, London	31,495,340	233,780	110,364
Norwich Union Fire, Norwich	7,888,405	70,621	28,974
Palatine, London	4,366,983	33,791	17,008
Phœnix, London	12,984,133	128,999	107,854
Prussian National, Stettin	2,604,337	21,215	3,863
Royal, Liverpool	19,547,335	186,201	98,128
Royal Exchange, London	3,195,889	41,559	53,467
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	5,727,294	58,560	41,541
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	3,959,326	43,526	28,088
Skandia, Stockholm	2,811,284	29,185	15,099
State Fire, Liverpool	312,715	2,837	3,205
Sun, London	6,653,591	107,958	49,694
Svea Fire and Life, Gothenburg	2,303,551	29,082	13,414
Union, London	5,046,524	44,446	30,691
Western, Toronto	6,011,935	57,964	20,892
Totals	$229,324,870	$2,163,784	$1,254,751
Grand Totals, 1905	$827,784,549	$7,861,080	$3,830,822
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	740,853,794	6,995,249	3,865,520
1903	690,606,681	6,570,390	2,851,788
1902	669,028,923	6,071,021	6,851,233
1901	579,800,581	4,845,250	2,901,564
1900	591,906,082	4,486,543	3,860,055
1899	562,359,202	4,192,851	2,165,688
1898	551,542,773	4,300,698	1,903,607
1897	521,002,901	4,367,125	1,954,095
1896	479,964,742	4,129,033	1,765,321
1895	467,273,351	4,030,864	2,079,568
1894	433,661,657	3,740,577	1,777,851
1893	435,865,310	3,696,756	1,797,045
1892	422,688,761	3,449,835	2,452,766
1891	392,431,147	2,944,715	1,785,629
1880 to 1890	3,248,107,385	25,440,764	11,489,889

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years included in the above table is 54.7. The percentage in 1905 was 48.6.

(Continued from page 223.)

before the committee, and expressed and still expresses the deliberate judgment of every member of the committee.

MR. M'CALL'S LAST LETTER.

President Orr gave out on Thursday John A. McCall's deathbed letter, addressed to him as a final explanation of the relations of Andrew Hamilton to the New York Life. The letter was written after Mr. McCall had received the last rites of the Church, and voiced the confidence which Mr. McCall always expressed in Hamilton and his work:

THE LAUREL HOUSE,
LAKEWOOD, N. J., February 16, 1906.

Alexander E. Orr, Esq., President New York Life Insurance Company:

MY DEAR MR. ORR—I am conscious that I have but a slight chance to recover, and I am desirous that you and the company officials through you shall have no doubt of the nature and character of the employment of Andrew Hamilton, if I am not here to be heard when the time arrives to have it made known.

He was employed by me in 1895 on behalf of the company to attend especially to matters of taxation and legislation in the United States and other countries affecting the company's interests.

He refused to accept the duty unless it was made confidential and secret, and that no accounting of moneys advanced to him should be asked of him, or rendered by him, and I assented to that proposition.

He told me that this condition he would impose as an absolute one, and unless it was accepted he would not undertake the work.

Whether my action was legal or not it will be left for others to say. I believed it was, and that I was clothed with full power so to act, and that the interests of the company and the policy-

holders demanded steps of this nature to be taken, but aside from this the main reason for my present writing is, that there may remain no doubt as to what my statement would be if I were here as to the nature and character of Judge Hamilton's retainer and contract. Sincerely yours,

JOHN A. MCCALL.

Campaign Contributions by Life Insurance Companies Not Criminal—Opinion by District Attorney Jerome.

District Attorney Jerome on Monday submitted a brief to Judge O'Sullivan, of the Court of General Sessions, New York, in which he discussed the criminality of the payment of contributions by officers of life insurance companies to the campaign funds of political parties. The conclusion reached by the District Attorney was that such contributions do not constitute larceny, because the element of criminal intent mentioned in law is absent and there is no law explicitly making such contributions illegal.

The brief was filed to guide the judge in advising the grand jury on the five questions contained in the presentment made by that body two weeks ago. The evidence obtained by the Armstrong Committee was assumed to be fact. The five questions in relation to political contributions were:

First—If the executive officers of the life insurance companies had committed the crime of larceny.

Second—If they were not guilty of larceny, whether some other crime was committed.

Third—If the facts should be held to constitute larceny when the contributions were unauthorized, whether there was any way in which those acts could be authorized by directors or stockholders so as not to constitute larceny.

Fourth—Whether the facts constituted larceny if it could be proved that the officers making the contributions were moved by thought of personal advantage.

Fifth—If there should be any doubt as to the intent of the officers making such contribution, whether it was then necessary to give such officer the benefit of that doubt.

MR. JEROME'S BRIEF.

This is the substance of Mr. Jerome's brief:

The fundamental idea in the English common law of crime was that there could be no crime without the evil intent. All the old text writers and authorities assume and repeatedly state this proposition, quoting the maxim of the civilians, "The act does not make guilt unless the mind be evil." The English common law of crime became the law of this State.

The principle is subject to construction, certain refinements and legal fictions, and apparently to some exceptions in our modern criminal law. These exceptions generally apply to misdemeanors created under the police powers, e. g., selling adulterated milk, where intent or knowledge is not necessary to constitute a crime. As to common law felonies, and those crimes created by English statutes which became a part of our common law, the principle applies in full force.

In our Penal Code, Section 528, are grouped under the title larceny four offenses separate in character:

1. Larceny by trespass; the taking, stealing and carrying away form of the common law.
2. Larceny by trick and device.
3. Larceny by false pretenses.
4. Embezzlement.

It is only the latter which can have any relation to the inquiries of the grand jury.

The officers of a corporation having custody or control of the property of the corporation undoubtedly belong to the group of persons mentioned in Sub-division 2 of Section 528. For such officers to give the property of the corporation or any part of it to a political organization is undoubtedly, in the words of the statute, to appropriate it to the use of a person "other than the true owner * * * thereof." Such appropriation to be larceny must according to the same section be "with intent to deprive or defraud the true owner of his property, or the use and benefit thereof."

In the American and English Encyclopedia of Law it is said: "In order that the taking and carrying away of the goods of another may constitute larceny it is necessary that the act should have been done animo furandi, or with a felonious intent, that is, an intent, without any claim or pretense of right or justification, to deprive the owner of his goods permanently."

Several decisions and opinions bearing on the definition and construction of "felonious intent" are then given in the brief. The last of them is:

The case of McCourt vs. People (1876), 64 N. Y., 583, is instructive on this point. In that case the prisoner with two companions stopped at the house of C. in the daytime. He asked C.'s daughter, who was alone in the house, for a drink of cider, offering to pay for it. She refused to let him have it, and he thereupon opened the cellar door, although forbidden to do so by her, went in and drew some cider. The Court of Appeals held that this was not larceny. The Court at p. 586 says:

Every taking by one person of the personal property of another, without his consent, is not larceny; and this. although it was taken without right, or claim of right, and for the purpose of appropriating it to the use of the taker. Superadded to this, there must have been a felonious intent, for without it there was no crime: It would, in the absence of such an intent, be a bare trespass, which, however aggravated, would not be crime. It is the criminal mind and purpose going with the act which distinguishes a criminal trespass from a mere civil injury.

The conclusion of the brief is as follows:

The term "felonious intent" is like the term "fraud" in a court of equity. We find nowhere a clear definition of it, but the authorities enable us to recognize it in most cases without great difficulty.

From the above cases and similar ones which could be cited very numerously it appears that in the law of larceny criminal intent, or, as it is usually called, felonious intent, is something necessarily present, or there is no crime, even if the act done is prohibited by law and the doer is sane.

Now in the presentment in question the act or acts supposed in the four first hypothetical statements to have been done are not in themselves prohibited by law. There is no legal prohibition against giving to a political party. If these acts are criminal they must be so because the property was the property of a corporation.

All our crimes today are statutory, and unless the acts supposed constitute larceny, I am unaware of any statute making such acts a crime.

If it be suggested that the facts assumed in two of the assumed hypothetical statements constitute bribery, the groundlessness of such a contention at once appears when an attempt is made to frame an indictment on this hypothesis. So also as to conspiracy, as a mere inspection of Section 168, Penal Code, discloses. Section 541, Penal Code, obviously has no application. If the assumed statements of fact constitute larceny, why does not every ultra vires (beyond one's powers) disposition of the property of a corporation constitute larceny?

From an extended and careful examination of the authorities I am led to the conclusion that the acts embodied in the four statements of facts found in the presentment do not show the commission of the crime of larceny or of any other crime. This conclusion is, of course, based upon an assumption of the facts therein embodied alone, without the addition or subtraction of anything. If I am correct in this conclusion the answer of the court to the first three questions should be as follows:

To the first question: No.

To the second question: No.

To the third question: It is not necessary to answer this question, as it falls with the reply to the first two.

As to the fourth question: It is obvious that acts of the character therein assumed, done with the intention therein specified, constitute larceny. It is clear, however, from all the authorities, that the selfish interest must not be remote or small.

As to the fifth question: It is elementary that the grand jury must give the benefit of a reasonable doubt to the person charged with crime, as to every element essential to be made out to prove the commission of a crime.

An opinion by Judge O'Sullivan, differing with the District Attorney, was given as we were going to press.

For a DEFINITE PROMISE to PAY, well defined, no experiment and taking no chances that technical legal definitions of what constitutes an accident will be used to defeat claims, BUY YOUR INSURANCE in and SELL the policies of

"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.

For particulars address **The Central Accident Ins. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

Liverpool & London & Globe Ins. Co.,

ESTABLISHED, 1836. ENTERED THE UNITED STATES, 1848.

NEW YORK OFFICE:
WILLIAM & PINE STREETS.

NEW ENGLAND, NEW YORK, PENNSYLVANIA, OHIO, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, TENNESSEE, ARKANSAS, MARYLAND, DELAWARE, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

H. W. EATON, Resident Manager.
GEO. W. HOYT, Deputy Manager.
JOHN J. MARTIN, Agency Superintendent.

CHICAGO OFFICE:
203—205 LA SALLE STREET

ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN, IOWA, WISCONSIN, MINNESOTA, MISSOURI, COLORADO, DAKOTA, KANSAS, NEBRASKA, MONTANA, UTAH, WYOMING AND NEW MEXICO. INDIAN AND OKLAHOMA TERRITORIES.

W. S. WARREN, Resident Secretary.
GEO. H. MOORE, J. V. THOMAS, Assistant Secretaries.

NEW ORLEANS OFFICE:
Corner CARONDELET AND GRAVIER STREETS.

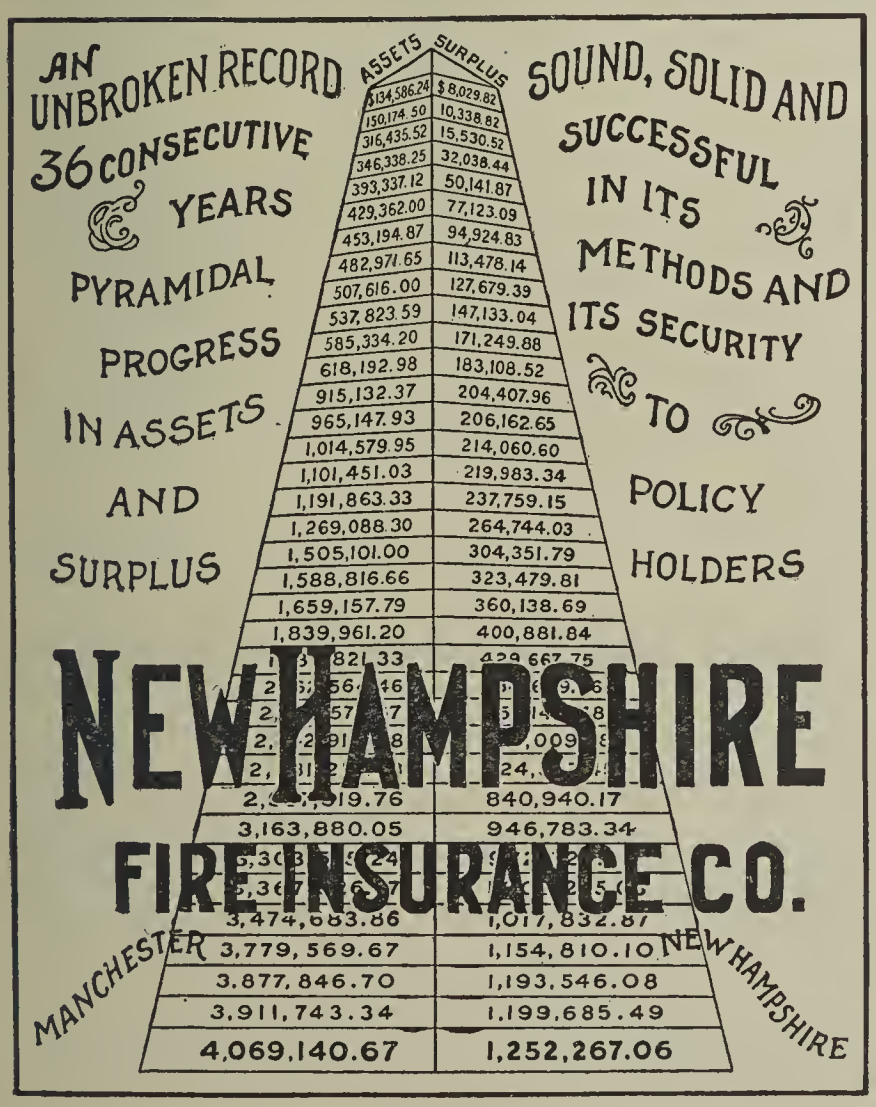
LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, ALABAMA, GEORGIA, FLORIDA, TEXAS.

CLARENCE F. LOW, Resident Secretary.
J. G. PEPPER, Assistant Secretary.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:
422 CALIFORNIA STREET.

CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, OREGON, WASHINGTON, IDAHO, ARIZONA

CHARLES D. HAVEN, Resident Manager.
C. MASON KINNE, Assistant Secretary.



Exceptional Inducements
are
Offered Intelligent
and Reliable Men
to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references

WESTERN MANAGER

Care of WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William St., New York City

Applications will be considered strictly confidential.

Massachusetts Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED 1851

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

ASSETS January 1, 1906,	$40,082,953.35
LIABILITIES,	36,716,579.77
SURPLUS,	3,366,373.58

Definite Paid-up and Cash Surrender Values Written in Every Policy.

JOHN A. HALL, Pres. HENRY M. PHILLIPS, Vice-Pres.
WM. W. MCCLENCH, Sec'd Vice-Pres. WM. H. SARGEANT, Sec.

New York Office: 610 Empire Building, 71 Broadway.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencies
WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Of the U. S. of A.

Home Office
NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ALBERT M. JOHNSON, President
ROBERT E. SACKETT, Vice-President
ROBERT D. LAY, Secretary
CHAS. B. SHEDD, Treasurer

Admitted assets, $6,092,500.46
Ins. in force - 43,336,600.78
Full paid capital, 1,000,000.00

Policy Contracts Liberal and Up to Date.

Exceptional Inducements offered to wideawake Agents.

SUN

Insurance Office of London

FOUNDED 1710.

United States Branch: 54 Pine St., New York.

Western Department: 171 La Salle St., Chicago.
Pacific Department: 215 Sansome St., San Francisco.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.

United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

WHAT is the use of saying
"The best company,"
or "The strongest company,"
or "The largest company"?
They all say these things.

WE SIMPLY SAY . . .

THE PENN MUTUAL LIFE Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Organized 1847.

THAT TELLS THE WHOLE STORY.

Northern Assurance Company,

OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN DEPARTMENTS,

38 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

GEORGE W. BABB, JR., Manager. T. A. RALSTON, Sub-Manager.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41
(Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.
Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1905

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance. The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy. Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

Head Office for the United States:

57 and 59

William Street,

NEW YORK.

LONDON & LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Manager.

Royal INSURANCE COMPANY (FIRE) OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

Statement of United States Branch,

JANUARY 1, 1904.

Assets,	held in the U. S. for the special protection of its American Policyholders.	$8,520.383.40
Liabilities,	. . . .	5,204,870.83
Net Surplus,	January 1st, 1904,	$3,315,512.57

AGENCIES IN ALL THE PRINCIPAL CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

HANOVER

Agencies In all the Principal Places in the United States.

Fire Insurance Company OF NEW YORK.

THE

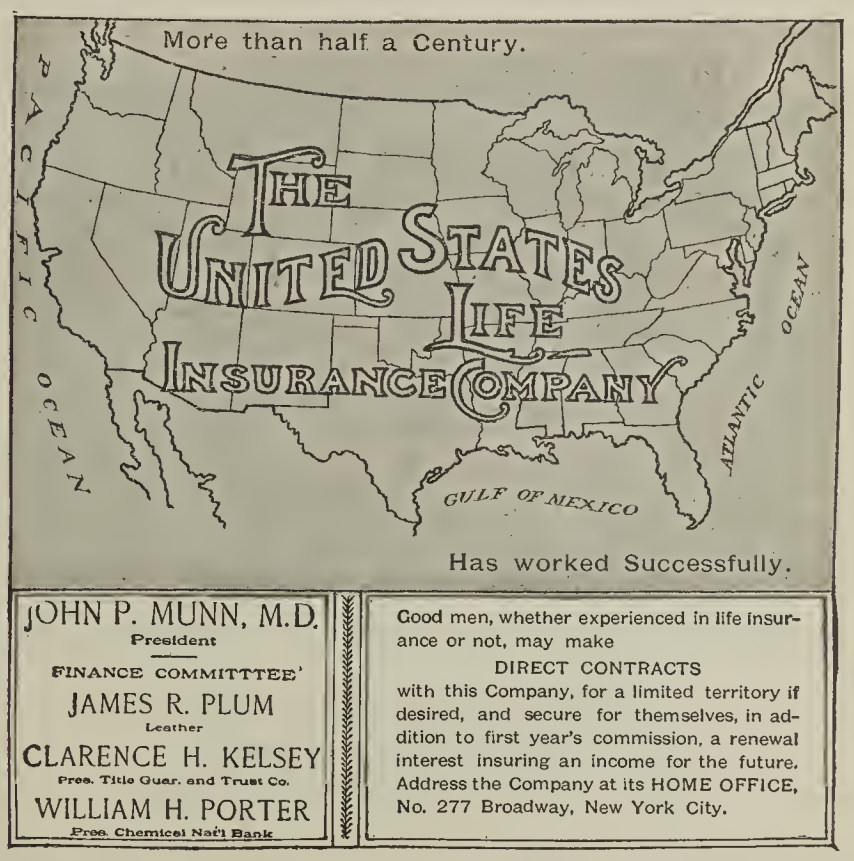
John Hancock

MUTUAL
Life Insurance Company of Boston, Mass.

Insurance in Force, December 31, 1904, - - - Over $356,000,000

ROLAND O. LAMB, Vice-Pres.; ARNOLD A. RAND, 2d Vice-Pres.; ROBERT K. EATON, Sup't of Agencies; WALTON L. CROCKER, Secretary; WM. S. SMITH, Actuary; GEORGE L. STIMMEL, General Agent Metropolitan District.

St. Paul Building, New York.



The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,
CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1905, - -	$43,891,738.40
Liabilities, - - - -	36,675,050.24
Gross Surplus, - - -	7,216,688.16

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.
Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

Provident Savings Life Assurance Society

OF NEW YORK.

TIMOTHY L. WOODRUFF, PRESIDENT.

THE BEST COMPANY FOR POLICY HOLDERS AND AGENTS.

SUCCESSFUL AGENTS, AND GENTLEMEN SEEKING REMUNERATIVE BUSINESS CONNECTIONS, MAY APPLY TO THE HEAD OFFICE, OR ANY OF THE SOCIETY'S GENERAL AGENTS.

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY

OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

NEW YORK OFFICE:

68 WILLIAM STREET.

GERMANIA

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

NEW YORK.

ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE

Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1904	$2,617,755.75
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,406,159.17
Joint Stock Capital	500,000.00

The Empire State Surety Co.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK

391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*
WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, JR., . *President*
EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

INCORPORATED 1799.

Providence Washington Insurance Company.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Capital, $2,500,000. AGENTS WANTED.

SURETY ON BONDS.

American Surety Co.,

100 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK.

Capital, $2,500,000

STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Resources (including Capital, $2,500,000)	$6,193,137.53
Liabilities (including Reserve, $856,188.70)	1,347,671.23

HENRY D. LYMAN, *President.* W. S. JOHNSTON, *Vice-President.*

Telephone : Cortlandt 5395.

Caledonian Ins. Co., of Scotland.

FOUNDED 1805.

"The Oldest Scottish Insurance Office."

UNITED STATES HEAD OFFICE:

Caledonian Building, 50 and 52 Pine St., New York City

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,883,210.00
Liabilities	1,215,950.00
Net Surplus Over All Liabilities	$667,260.00

CHARLES H. POST, U. S. Mgr.

R. C. CHRISTOPHER, Ass't U. S. Mgr.

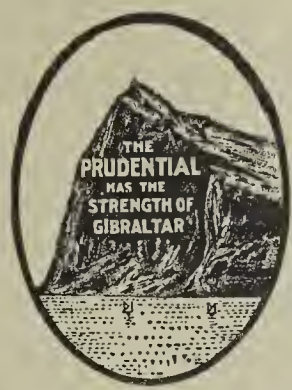
YOUNG MEN MAKE MONEY

There are opportunities to represent a big, sound, up-to-date Life Insurance Company in a profitable manner.

Prudential representatives make money. They have most varied forms of policies and advantageous contracts, with liberal commissions.

The attention of young men, particularly young men starting in business, is especially sought.

Write for full information regarding these unusual opportunities.



THE PRUDENTIAL
INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey.

JOHN F. DRYDEN, President — Home Office, Newark, N. J.

The Mutual Benefit
LIFE INSURANCE CO.
NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

ASSETS (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1905,	$93,237,790.27
LIABILITIES,	85,918,227.30
SURPLUS,	7,319,562.97

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

[FIRE]
German American Insurance Company New York

CAPITAL
$1,500,000
NET SURPLUS
6,442,674
ASSETS
14,052,520

National Life Insurance Co.
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Established in 1850. — Operating in 44 States.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, President.
JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President.
JAMES B. ESTEE, 2d Vice-President.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary.
H. M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
A. B. BISBEE, Medical Director.
C. E. MOULTON, Actuary.
F. A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1906, and gained during the past decade:

Assets	$34,519,093.04	Gain, 184 per cent.
Surplus	3,821,752.51	Gain, 165 per cent.
Insurance	145,480,904.00	Gain, 109 per cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.
A. H. GSELLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

INCORPORATED 1865.
GERMAN INSURANCE CO.
OF FREEPORT, ILL.

The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$5,546,127.97
Cash Capital,	200,000.00
Liabilities, including reinsurance,	3,617,361.34
NET SURPLUS,	1,728,766.63

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.
LIMITED,
OF LONDON.

OFFICE:
Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO., INCORPORATED 1833.
FIRE AND MARINE. Head Office: TORONTO, CANADA.

UNITED STATES BRANCH.
JANUARY 1, 1906

Assets	$1,542,949.10
Liabilities	1,046,546.17
Net Surplus	$496,402.93

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.

THE **STANDARD** LIFE AND
ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY
INCORPORATED 1884. OF DETROIT, MICH.

All forms of Accident, Sickness and Liability Insurance.

D. M. FERRY, PRESIDENT.
E. A. LEONARD, SECRETARY.
W. C. MAYBURY, MNG. DIRECTOR.
Cash Capital, $250,000.00

C. A. TIMEWELL, Mgr. Metropolitan Dept., 92 William St., N. Y. City.

QUEEN
Ins. Co. of America.

NEW YORK.

North British & Mercantile
INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

Established 1809.

OFFICE:
76 WILLIAM STREET,
New York City.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President.
HENRY S. ROBINSON, Vice-President.

HERBERT H. WHITE, Secretary.
DANIEL H. WELLS, Actuary.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410,42	$11,290.773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary.
EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

"The Leading Fire Insurance Company of America."

Incorporated 1819. **Charter Perpetual.**

Cash Capital	$4,000,000.00
Cash Assets	16,815,296.87
Total Liabilities	5,779,285.94
Net Surplus	7,036,010.93
Surplus as to Policyholders	11,036,010.93
Losses Paid in 87 Years	102,847,801.66

WM. B. CLARK, President.
W. H. KING, Secretary.
A. C. ADAMS, HENRY E. REES, A. N. WILLIAMS, Assistant Secretaries.

WESTERN BRANCH, Traction Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.
KEELER & GALLAGHER, General Agents.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH, Omaha, Neb.
WM. H. WYMAN, Gen. Agent. W. P. HARFORD, Ass't Gen. Agent.

PACIFIC BRANCH, San Francisco, Cal.
BOARDMAN & SPENCER, General Agents.

INLAND MARINE DEPARTMENT.

CHICAGO, 145 La Salle St. NEW YORK, 93 and 95 Wiliam St.
BOSTON, 70 Kilby St. PHILADELPHIA, 226 Walnut St.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1906. No. 13.

Published every Saturday by the Underwriter Printing and Publishing Company.

Subscription price: Five Dollars per annum in advance.

All communications should be addressed to THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William Street, New York.

Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

THE District Attorney struck the true note in his dinner speech when he demanded that men accused of crime shall be convicted by evidence and not by newspaper-made public opinion that they are guilty. He said, what all sane people recognize, that the country is passing through one of its periodical conditions of hysteria, induced in this instance by the persistent blare of an incendiary press. The one cent dailies and ten cent monthlies, assuming the pretense that everybody with a decent coat on his back is corrupt, attack indiscriminately all forms of public and private corporate interest, one of them accentuating its diatribes by holding up to public scorn even the Senate of the United States, another attacking the honor of each State seriatim. The life insurance investigation has afforded them an opportunity for wanton defamation of individuals which they have improved to the uttermost. The purpose of these publications is sensation, for that is what sells them. They circulate among many millions of readers, who have neither the time nor apparently the disposition to think for themselves, and so "public opinion" which cries "lynch him" is created. It does not ask for proof; it thirsts for blood. Against that kind of condemnation Mr. Jerome protests. He will not be a party to it. He can afford to wait for his justification in that return of reason in mankind which inevitably follows such a debauch as we are going through and which the people of every nation experience at times. "Public opinion," says Mr. Jerome consolingly, "goes hither and thither like a ship, but in the long course of time it is sweet and sane and sound, and will make its port." Then it will ask for legal evidence in order to convict.

THE Armstrong bill to promote warfare for the control of mutual life insurance companies went through both houses of the Legislature with a rush this week, and is to receive the prompt approval of the Governor. One of the several Senators who were protesting loudly against the bill when it was introduced, spoke against it and then fell down and voted for it in deference to "public opinion," he said, although he meant newspaper clamor. Now will begin preparations for the great scramble for policyholders' voting proxies all over the world. The act destroys all present proxies and makes only those executed on and after September 15 available for voting purposes at the elections of entirely new boards of trustees on November 15. The outsiders, for whose profit the act is principally meant, are given a month's start over the insiders in filing notices of their nominations. This is a decided advantage, as it was intended by the authors of the act to be, but we are inclined to believe that the agents will prove the most important factor in deciding the contests, as they are nearest to the policyholders, whose lives they have been the medium of insuring and keeping insured. It will be interesting to observe how the lists of policyholders, with their addresses, will be prepared and exposed to public view. As nobody can be restrained from copying them, there ought to be several score dealers in names for advertising purposes at work on the job, to say nothing of the emissaries of competing insurance companies. There are 600,000 Mutual Life and 950,000 New York Life policyholders, and including those of the smaller mutual companies 1,650,000 in all. If printed in this paper in double column they would occupy about six thousand pages of its present size.

IT has evidently been to the interest of somebody in England to stimulate alarm about the safety of the interests of British policyholders in American life insurance companies, and yet the legislative investigations which have been conducted here have confirmed the absolute solvency of the companies and their ability to meet their future obligations. At the worst all that has been revealed of disadvantage has been methods of management which have not been destructive of solvency. What warrant is there to suppose that similar methods may not have been in practice in British life offices, for there is no system of government supervision in the United Kingdom which involves periodical or occasional examination of their internal affairs? Human nature is pretty much the same under like circumstances. The truth of the observation is finding illustration in the Government investigation of Canadian life insurance companies which is going on in the Dominion. The lines of inquiry followed by the commission are practically those laid down by the Armstrong Committee, and the results bear a singular resemblance to those that were reached here. While instability has not been discovered there is plentiful evidence of loose expenditures, exaggerated valuations of investments, improvident agency contracts, contributions to outside objects, and defective bookkeeping, and of inefficiency in the Government insurance department. The newspaper reports of the investigation read much like those which accompanied our own inquisition, although served up with fewer sensational effects, and the official examiner, Mr. Shepley, has apparently taken our eminent Mr. Hughes as his model. And if we understand some of the complaining company officials, the same unreason prevails in the demand for certain information, that was current at times here. "There are statements to be made up in reply to the Government questions that would take nearly a year to prepare," says an official, and he adds: "To give proper and full replies to all these questions, it will be necessary to go over all the books of the companies for fifteen years back in case

of companies that were in business so long and back to the opening of business in the case of others." Thus history repeats itself. The following are the questions which the commission has submitted to all the life insurance companies transacting business in the Dominion:

(1) Furnish statement showing by name all the officers, directors and agents of the company, and the salaries, commissions or other remuneration received by or credited to each.

(2) Produce copies of the bylaws or other authority for the payment of such salaries, commissions or other remuneration.

(3) Show in every such case any relation or connection by blood, marriage or otherwise, existing between any such officer, director or agent, and any other officer, director or agent of the company, or any person or member of any firm, or shareholder in any other company having dealings of any kind with the company.

(4) With regard to field or soliciting agents, produce the actual contracts of such agents with the company, where there are written contracts, whether by correspondence or otherwise. In all other cases, state concisely the arrangement existing.

(5) Furnish statement showing all commissions and rebates allowed or made in the transaction of and with each such agent, in connection with each description of policy.

(6) Disclose the names of all persons, of all persons forming syndicates or firms, and of all corporations, whether principals or agents, taking part in the negotiation of such securities, or receiving any remuneration in respect thereof, directly or indirectly, as underwriters or otherwise, and show in each case the precise remuneration paid or received.

(7) Furnish statement showing all syndicate agreements entered into by the company or any officer thereof, relating either to the underwriting or purchase or acquisition of any securities, producing all documents, papers, minutes and correspondence embodying or relating to such agreements.

Facts and Opinions.

The resignations of Vice Presidents Robert A. Granniss and William R. Gillette were received by the trustees of the **Mutual Life insurance company** at their meeting on Wednesday and were accepted, resolutions of appreciation for the services of the retiring officials being unanimously passed. They also resigned as trustees. The resignation of Elbridge T. Gerry as a trustee was likewise received and accepted. Mr. Granniss retires after a service of thirty years with the company. Dr. Gillette has been thirty-six years in service. To a reporter prior to the meeting Dr. Gillette said that the newspaper attacks appear to be centred on the older men in the insurance business, and are hurting the business very much more than anyone realized. He thought that it was the duty of such men to stand aside in the interests of the policyholders. This warfare had caused the Mutual Life so far a loss of at least $125,000,000 in business. The smaller companies, however, were the worst losers. The situation was very bad. He said:

My resignation from the Mutual has not been requested. In resigning I would not be serving any selfish interests, but purely the interests of the policyholders and the interests of the Mutual. I have nothing to conceal and nothing to be ashamed of. Everything that I have done in the thirty-six years I have been with the company has been in the interests of the policyholders and the Mutual and been directed toward putting the company on a good foundation. It seems to me that, judging from ordinary human standards, I have succeeded very well. But we have been judged ex parte, and had no opportunity for cross examination. This is why we are reaping the whirlwind now. The general public before long will share in the harvest unless the clamor now going on is speedily brought to a close.

At Wednesday's meeting of the trustees the Truesdale committee presented its fourth report, which proved to be so voluminous that the committee was instructed to have copies printed and presented to the board. The report is based largely on the findings of the eighty accountants who have been at work in the different departments of the company for some time. It has nothing to do with the answers of the requisitions recently sent to employees and trustees. The information that comes from these requisitions will be the subject of a fifth report. A report printed in the yellow papers that President Peabody is about to resign is denied with emphasis by that official. He says that he has no intention of doing so now or at any time in the near future. Complaints were served this week on the defendants in the actions which the Mutual Life has started against Richard A. McCurdy and Robert H. McCurdy and Charles H. Raymond & Co., the company's metropolitan general agents. Conspiracy to defraud, by which the company suffered a loss of $500,000, is alleged. Also the recovery of $750,000 is sought on account of the contracts which the company made with Charles H. Raymond & Co., running from 1893 to 1905. In the action begun last week against Richard A. McCurdy the sum demanded from him is $3,371,341. One of the counsel for the defendants, John S. Wise, makes the following comment on the statements in the plaintiff's complaints: "There has been nothing like them since the days of the lamented Colonel Mulberry Sellers."

The **relations of the British policyholders with the Mutual Life** insurance company were the occasion of comment during the week. D. C. Haldeman, the manager of the company for the United Kingdom, resigned on the ground, it is stated in cable dispatches, that his remonstrances against the policy of the company have been disregarded and he has been treated with contumely. He would now do his utmost to safeguard the interests of the British policyholders. The Mutual Life has 20,000 policies in the United Kingdom, representing $75,000,000. Mr. Haldeman, it was stated, would soon start for the United States to aid the "International Policyholders' Committee" (which is being engineered by Mr. Bowles). He is charged with having had aspirations to succeed Mr. McCurdy as president, and to be dissatisfied because his candidature was not appreciated. The London *Globe*, in commenting on the resignation of Mr. Haldeman, suggests that the British policyholders of the Mutual Life cut loose from the company and reorganize themselves into a British company under the direction of Mr. Haldeman. The Earl of Granard, in the House of Lords on Tuesday, speaking on behalf of the Board of Trade in reply to the Earl of Onslow, agreed with the latter that there should be legislation compelling the American life companies to deposit approved assets in England to meet their liabilities there. President Peabody, speaking of these matters this week, said that the management has not had any definite complaint from Mr. Haldeman. Personally he had had but one letter from him, received last January. The company has no intention whatever of withdrawing from Great Britain. It is anxious to comply with the requirements of British law, and do everything in its power to take care of the interests of its British policyholders. It would welcome Bristish representation on the board of trustees. In reference to this President Peabody said:

We are going to do everything possible for the protection of the English policyholders. We have $400,000,000 here for the protection of all the policyholders of the company, and will pay their policy contracts as fast as they fall due. I don't see any more occasion for the Mutual Life to deposit funds there than for English companies doing business in this country to deposit funds here. I don't see why we should deposit funds there unless we are required to do so by the laws of England. We are here, we are doing business and we are solvent. I will say, however, that we will do everything in reason that can be suggested for the protection of the British policyholders. There has been no law we have ignored or failed to obey. The trustees owe something to the policyholders over here. Think for a moment what would happen. The American policyholders have definite claims on this fund, too. This fund is here for all the policyholders. What authority have we to send $30,000,000 or $40,000,000 of it to a foreign country? We cannot scatter money around the world when the law does not require it. Our law here requires us to keep our money here, and in a particular way. Certainly if Parliament does not require us to keep part of it in Great Britain we cannot do it at the suggestion of twelve policyholders. If the English Government requires us to deposit funds over there, it will designate some official of the Government who will be responsible for the funds. Until the Government does that, who would take that fund, even if we did deposit it there? We have to earn an income on this fund. We have got to invest it. On their securities we would not earn as much as we are doing now.

A curious old book, printed in Dutch, has recently come into the possession of Mr. Gayle T. Forbush, of Boston, general agent for New England of the Royal Exchange. Its partial title is: "Beschryving Der Nieuwlijks Uitgevonden en Geoctrojeerde. Slang-Brand-Spuiten." It is a large folio, illustrated, by Jan Van der Heide and Jan Van der Heide the Younger, and was published at Amsterdam in 1690 to advertise **the invention of flexible fire hose,** and to show its advantages over the swivel jets or nozzles which had been in use up to that time. A translation of the title page is as follows: "Description of the lately discovered and patented Serpent-Fire-Extinguishers, and Their method of Fire Quenching, which are at present in use in Amsterdam. Containing further demonstrations of the Difference between their effect and that of the Old Quenching Machines and Extinguishers, likewise of the Apparatus itself, and of the quenching of fires which have occurred in this City under the use of both. With Description of the Fire Ordinances of the City of Amsterdam. By the Inventors themselves, Jan Van der Heide and Jan Van der Heide the Younger, General Fire Chiefs of the City of Amsterdam. At Amsterdam, by Jan Rieuwertsz, City Printer, and Bookseller, Exchange Street, in the Martyrology, 1690." After the dedication "To The Noble, Highly Honorable Gentlemen," etc., mayor and councillors of Amsterdam, follow copies of the fire ordinances of the city, and a detailed description of the new engines. The rest of the work is devoted to the history of fires in Amsterdam from July 7, 1652, to January 21, 1687. The most important are illustrated by copper plate engravings of no mean artistic merit, and probably the work of one of the authors. The inscriptions on the plates are in Dutch and French. The Dutch name for the new engines was "slang-brand-spuiten," literally "serpent fire spurters," while the French term "pompes à boyaux" was "pumps with entrails.."

As was announced last Saturday Judge O'Sullivan, of the Court of General Sessions, New York, declined to advise the grand jury, as District Attorney Jerome had requested, that larceny was not committed by the trustees and officers of life insurance companies when they **contributed funds of the companies to political parties.** The judge charged the jury that it must investigate as to the responsibility for such crimes. He refused to grant the district attorney's application for warrants to arrest the givers and receivers of these funds in order to test the question as to whether they had committed felonies. Mr. Jerome then went before Magistrate Moss and obtained a warrant for the arrest of George W. Perkins, who, being notified, appeared before Justice Greenbaum, of the Supreme Court, on Wednesday, accompanied by counsel for release on habeas corpus. It was granted, Cleveland H. Dodge becoming bondsman, and thus a case is made up to settle the question of crime, to be carried up to the United States Supreme Court if necessary. In the criminal branch of the Supreme Court on Thursday the district attorney asked for a special grand jury to consider the insurance cases. He said that the Armstrong Committee had unearthed a lot of valuable evidence in insurance matters, and that while he was in some doubt as to how to proceed, he had decided that it would be best to ask for a special grand jury to determine whether or not certain crimes had been committed. Justice Dowling reserved his decision.

The directors of the **Connecticut Mutual Life insurance company** at their meeting on Saturday, at the suggestion of President Taylor, made a number of important changes in the working force of the company in order to meet better the demands of the increasing business which is coming to it. Herbert H. White, who has been secretary since January, 1899, was chosen treasurer, a new office, and thereupon resigned his secretaryship. William H. Deming, who has been for many years an assistant secretary, was made secretary, and J. Humphrey Greene was made second secretary. Mr. White went to the Connecticut Mutual from the position of assistant cashier of the Phœnix National Bank seven years ago last January, succeeding the late Edward M. Bunce as secretary. He has served in the city council both as alderman and councilman, having been president of the town board in 1897-9. William H. Deming, who succeeds Mr. White as secretary, entered the employ of the company in September, 1875, as a clerk. He was appointed assistant secretary on August 13, 1897. He has a high reputation as a competent life insurance man. J. Humphrey Greene, now second secretary of the company, is a son of the late President Jacob L. Greene. He was appointed assistant secretary in March, 1899, and had been previously in the real estate business, with, before that, experience as a member of the city staff of the Hartford *Courant.*

The following statement concerning the proposed methods of the new **Surplus Line Association** at Chicago, composed of twenty of the largest companies, has been issued by William Wood, manager:

The association will recognize the established reports of agents and brokers controlling risks, and will make no attempt to induce business away from the parties now placing the insurance. The association will observe strictly current rules and rates, as well as all State laws and legal requirements in regard to the issuing of policies. Risks will be eligible for consideration for surplus line policies when it has been clearly shown that the writing capacity of the locally represented stock companies has been exhausted. Risks generally prohibited by the associated companies will be ineligible, also all risks which have been declined for any reason by the associated members generally. Where the control of a risk is divided, the agent or broker making application for a surplus line policy will be required to show an order from the assured. The attitude of the manager of the association will be that of absolute impartiality on every question involving control, etc. Application forms will be furnished by the manager on request. When applications are submitted it is important that a complete list of the insurance should be given and essential that at least the lines carried by the associated companies be stated. This information will in a great measure determine the eligibility of all risks. The association will carry up to $100,000 on the best risks, and if it is desired the line can be split among several of the associated companies and policies issued in each. The maximum rate of commission allowed will be 7½ per cent.

Arguments in the suit of Stephen W. Reynolds and others in the suit against the **Royal Arcanum** to set aside the new scale of rates adopted in May, 1905, were presented before the full bench of the Massachusetts Supreme Court at Boston Monday and Tuesday of this week. Counsel for defendant contended that the new rates were justified because of the increased cost of life insurance with increasing age; also that the laws of the State gave the order the power to change its laws and adopt the rates of 1905. Counsel for plaintiffs argued that the adoption of new rates was illegal, because constituting a breach of membership contract and changing the character of the order from a fraternal beneficiary organization to one on business life insurance lines. The court reserved its decision, but it is expected at an early date, and with intense interest. There have been a number of conflicting decisions in the lower courts of different States on this question, and the pronouncement of the court of last resort in the State where the order was incorporated will probably settle the question for the country at large.

At a meeting of the trustees of the **Equitable Life Assurance Society** on Wednesday John N. Beach, vice president of the Tefft-Weller Company, was elected a member of the board. President Morton has addressed a letter to former policyholders who have allowed their policies to lapse since the disturbances began, advising them that they will be re-

instated on the old terms, provided they are physically satisfactory. Mr. Morton says:

The chartered accountants have examined the bonds and stocks owned by the society, as well as the collateral held for secured loans, and certified that they are worth the values at which they are stated in the annual statement. They find that full provision has been made for all liabilities. No other insurance company ever before had independent auditors make such an exhaustive examination of its affairs, and I congratulate the policyholders on the result. There has been a radical change in the management of this society, and the house cleaning will be complete. The economies and savings of the new administration will approximate more than $1,000,000 a year, which, if capitalized on a basis of 4 per cent., is equivalent to an additional investment of $25,000,000. From all this you can see that the financial condition of the society is most gratifying. The constant effort of the new management will be to get the best results for the policyholders.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the **Louisiana National Life Assurance Society,** held in New Orleans on March 19, Paul L. Woolston was elected secretary, vice Hunter C. Leake, resigned, and P. L. Woolston and U. Koen were added to the board of directors. A campaign was mapped out for rapidly organizing the entire State of Louisiana. On March 17 Insurance Commissioner McGivney granted the society a license in accordance with the report made to him by Robert E. Forster, consulting actuary of Philadelphia, who previously examined the institution. A corps of competent agents is already in the field, and business is being rapidly written. Almost all the stockholders have already taken policies or promised to do so, and the future of the society appears to be assured. A very careful selection of risks will be made in order to insure a mortality rate which will compare favorably with the experience in other States. The same end will be aimed at by entering other States as soon as Louisiana is thoroughly organized.

The **Policyholders' Society of Georgia** has bursted up. It was formed at Atlanta in February by a convention of 100 life insurance policyholders, claiming to represent 12,000 policyholders of the Mutual and New York Life. Lawson tried to capture it, but failed. A meeting was called for March 20 at Atlanta, and only the president, secretary and one trustee found themselves present. They waited two hours for more arrivals, but no one came. Disgusted with the indifference of their associates the forlorn residuum declared the association disbanded. An Atlanta dispatch says:

The Policyholders' Protective Society of Georgia was dissolved this afternoon, and hereafter there will be no organized effort on the part of Georgia policyholders in old line companies to take part as an organization in the annual meeting of the big companies. The annual meeting of the Georgia society was to be held today, but when the hour of meeting arrived the only members present were Chairman Amorous, Secretary Samuel Barnett and Ben L. Jones, of Macon, one of the trustees. After waiting some time Chairman Amorous announced the meeting was called off and the work of the society at an end.

A Westchester County, New York, jury in the Supreme Court on Monday awarded a verdict for $7,000 in favor of **Richard Wightman against the New York Life** insurance company for commissions which he alleges are due for breaking a contract. Mr. Wightman sued for $100,000 damages through Judge Isaac N. Mills, of Mount Vernon. He set forth in his complaint that he had devised a plan to get a large amount of insurance business by means of magazine advertisements, and entered into a contract with the company for one year. The corporation agreed to pay a certain commission to him for securing the renewal of policies and for obtaining new policies. He was also to be allowed expenses not to exceed $1,000 a month in connection with his work. He recites that he was so successful that other agents complained and he was discharged. Mr. Wightman said after the verdict of the jury that it sustained his non-agency plan. He considers it a victory in that particular, but is dissatisfied with the amount of the verdict.

"Anti Mob" writes thus to the New York *Globe* concerning the newspaper abuse of **District Attorney Jerome** for refusing to attempt to convict without evidence:

If this giving of insurance money to political parties is suddenly made out to be a crime, prohibiting measures for the future can be passed and enacted without dragging into the mud names of men whose lives have been exemplary, pure and good and just in all things. The straight path of justice and law is leading in a different direction, and the time will come when District Attorney Jerome's present attitude will seem to us all like the defying and defensive position of one brave man toward a snarling and howling pack of bloodthirsty dogs, hounds and wolves, all entangled, fighting each other and attacking all that come into their reach with brutish ferocity, merciless fangs and unrestrainable claws.

The following are the views of a correspondent of the *Times:*

Upon reading some of the newspaper criticisms of District Attorney Jerome for his views on campaign contributions by the insurance companies a serious question is presented to me. Have I, in contributing toward the maintenance of a watchman in my home neighborhood, been guilty of larceny from my family by the expenditure of funds justly theirs by right of inheritance, I having done so on my own judgment without their knowledge or consent?

A Methodist minister, Rev. Edward M. Freeman, of Terre Haute, Ind., was **arrested** on Saturday last **on an indictment charging arson** in connection with the burning on the night of February 11, 1903, of a Methodist chapel near Lizton, Ind., of which he was then in charge. The building was an old frame affair, and the project of the minister and town members of the congregation to build in the centre of the town met with opposition from the country members. A bitter church feud resulted, in the midst of which the church burned to the ground. Mr. Freeman, after collecting $800 worth of insurance, began soliciting funds for the new structure. Rumors of a conspiracy connecting Mr. Freeman's name and that of two of his church members with the fire were investigated by the insurance company and the indictment followed. Mr. Freeman, who alone was indicted, denies the charge, and attributes his trouble to his church enemies.

Among the symptoms of unrest at what is claimed to be undue interference by the **Boston Board of Fire Underwriters** with the business of fire insurance agents in the periphery of Greater Boston appears the proposition recently adopted by the Cambridge Board, and providing "that the secretary be instructed to communicate with companies doing business in Cambridge, asking them if they will designate one agent for the company in this city, through whom all insurance on property in the city placed by outside agents or brokers must be written. And if said companies have but one agent in Cambridge, then to require that all insurance on Cambridge property placed for them shall be written through said agent or agency. It being understood that when such insurance is placed the agent or broker placing the insurance is entitled to and shall be allowed the same commission on premiums that is usually paid in Boston to brokers."

The **British America and Western** of Toronto will, on May 1, discontinue its Northwestern department, which has been under the management of George W. Hayes since 1879. As a tribute to Mr. Hayes' faithful service the companies have joined in voting to retain him in retired service on salary for life. The territory of which Mr. Hayes is in charge includes Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. All of the agencies of the Western and British America in Mr. Hayes' department will hereafter re-

(*Continued on page 239.*)

FIRE INSURANCE RATING.

Frederick B. Kellam Before the College of Commerce of the University of California.

In appearing before you this afternoon to address you upon the subject of fire insurance rating I shall take the liberty of supposing that you are interested in this subject in its relation to commerce generally, rather than as specialists seeking technical information. While some of you, I doubt not, are preparing to enter the fire insurance field, yet I take it by far the larger number intend engaging in other lines of commercial life where, however, fire insurance, even if not the object of your special study at present, will be found so interwoven as to merit your careful consideration. In its application

FIRE INSURANCE IS A TAX,

the fire insurance companies acting as tax collectors and disbursers, thus distributing over the community at large the enormous waste caused from year to year by fire. A disaster which might financially cripple an individual, or in the case of a conflagration, a town or city, is thus minimized, and the monetary loss of such a disaster distributed over a long period of time and among many people. I wish to emphasize that the loss is distributed—the destroyed property is not restored—that is gone forever. Insurance has created nothing, has made good nothing, has simply assessed a very large number of people, whose contributions to the tax are distributed by the companies to a smaller number of people who are sufferers from fire.

Fire insurance as we understand it dates back to the latter part of the seventeenth century. Immediately after the great fire of London in 1666, ideas began to suggest themselves tending to the protection of individual property owners against loss by fire, and these finally resulted in the organization of several institutions between 1680 and 1720, which for a given consideration, called a premium, offered to pay an agreed sum in the event of the destruction by fire of certain described property, or to repair it if damaged. In the case of several of these institutions the amount to be paid by the property owner (the premium) was in proportion to the losses sustained by all the policyholders, and this form of insurance, called mutual insurance, is still practiced. In 1720 the first joint stock fire insurance companies were organized—the Royal Exchange Assurance and the London Assurance Corporation, both of the city of London, and both still in existence. Following the example of several of the older institutions, these companies freed the policyholder from any liability for the losses of others, charging a fixed premium, which was expressed in the policy, and this method has been generally followed by the joint stock companies since organized. It has proven by far the more popular form. At this time nine-tenths of the fire insurance in the United States is in joint stock companies, the so called mutual organizations carrying the other one-tenth, and it will therefore probably be sufficient if we confine our examination of the rate question to the

METHODS OF THE JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

In a general way it may be said that these companies operating in the United States are now called upon to write about $18,000,000,000 in insurance during the year, and upon this amount a sufficient premium must be charged to cover the ordinary fire losses of the year, the expense of conducting the business, and a proper reserve fund for conflagrations which are bound to occur from time to time; a margin of profit must also be provided for the use and risk of the capital invested. The fire losses the companies expect to pay to policyholders upon this amount of liability are nearly $100,000,000 per annum, not including those attending great conflagrations, such as that of Baltimore in 1904, which alone cost the insurance companies $35,000,000. In the way of expenses the companies are called upon to pay numerous charges on the business under this general heading, such as supervisory and management expenses at the head office of the company and at its various agencies; the cost of soliciting and writing the business and the collection of the premium thereon, usually in the form of commission on the premium involved; the cost of surveying and rate making; contributions for the support of inspection bureaus, fire marshals and salvage corps; taxes on premium receipts and fees imposed by the various States in which the company does business. All these expenses taken together will probably reach in round figures about $70,000,000 per annum.

THE EXPENSE OF CONDUCTING THE BUSINESS

has been the subject of criticism from time to time by company managers as well as by the general public, but while some of these expenses are in a measure controllable by the companies, any very great lessening of the expense account can hardly be looked for while the business is conducted along its present lines, and while the companies are expected to contribute so much to the protection of property from fire, aside from their payments for losses. As a matter of fact numerous charges which appear in the expense accounts of the companies could more properly be included in the loss accounts, as for example, the amounts paid for the support of inspection bureaus and salvage corps, these having to do directly with the lessening of the fire waste. A heavy item of expense, and one which is unfortunately increasing, is

THE TAX ON PREMIUMS

imposed by the various States. It may not be out of place for me to express the opinion that this increasing burden of taxation arises from the fact that the principles governing fire insurance are not at all clearly understood by legislators generally. It must be kept in mind that the companies have but one source of income from which to pay the fire loss and the expense of carrying on the business—and this one source is the premium derived from the issuance of policies. The sums received as interest on invested funds cannot properly be drawn upon for losses and expenses. Were it necesary to do this, a company would be better off by ceasing to transact insurance, becoming simply a corporation or organization for the investment of funds. When the premium income is taxed by the State, the premiums must be made sufficiently large to cover this tax, and the insuring property owner thus pays not only his ordinary taxes in common with all property owners, but also contributes to this further tax on insurance premiums, which the non-insurers, less prudent or less thrifty, escape. However, it is unnecessary for us to discuss the economic principle involved in indirect taxation; we are confronted with a fact, not a theory, and simply find it necessary to include in the premium a sum sufficient to cover taxes as well as other expenses of the business. We will therefore dismiss this curious example of a tax on a tax and get back to the feature of the basis of the insurance premium.

TO MEET THE LOSSES,

ordinary and conflagration, the expenses and the necessary profit on the venture, the companies during a period of five years ending December 31, 1904, have been collecting premiums at an average rate of about $1.11 on each $100 of insurance. If it were possible for a company to do this in fact, that is to collect $1.11 on each $100 of liability, there would be very little difficulty in insurance rating. We have already likened insurance to a tax, and if this tax were compulsory like the tax of a government, and if it were levied on the fixed value of property the same as the tax for the support of our public schools, the matter would be simple. The property owners contribute to the tax for public schools on the basis of the value of his property, whether he has half a dozen children receiving the benefits of public school education, or no children at all. Similarly, let us say, he contributes in the same way to the tax for the maintenance of the fire department, whether he be the owner of a planing mill or of a so called fireproof building—both are taxed according to the value, notwithstanding the fact that the fire department would probably be called upon to act many more times in the case of the planing mill than in the case of the fireproof building, and the tax is paid more or less cheerfully because it is levied according to the law and the custom.

But insurance considered as a tax is not compulsory either from the standpoint of the insurer or the insured, and a few of the contingencies which would present themselves should the company attempt to charge a uniform rate of $1.11 per hundred will readily occur to you. It is quite apparent that the planing mill is more liable to destruction by fire than is the fireproof building, hence the fireproof building could probably be insured against fire for a much lower rate than $1.11

per hundred, and the planing mill owner should probably pay a much higher rate. The well managed insurance company would undoubtedly decline applications for insurance on planing mills at $1.11, while gladly accepting insurance on the fireproof building at that rate; on the other hand the owner of the fireproof building would strongly object to paying the average rate. This feature is recognized by insurance companes, and

THE FIRE INSURANCE TAX IS ASSESSED ACCORDING TO HAZARDS,

so called; that is to say, it is assessed according to the probability of the destruction of the property by fire.

The division of the numerous properties calling for fire insurance (risks as they are termed) into classes of hazard has been the slow outgrowth of many, many years, and even now the system is far from perfect. Primarily hazards may be said to be of two kinds—the physical hazard, which is the danger from loss by fire inherent in the property itself, irrespective of its ownership or management, and the moral hazard, which brings in the personal element, the human desire that the property be destroyed, or the lack of desire for its preservation. As may be imagined, the moral hazard is usually a hidden unknown quantity. Where it is suspected to exist, the insurance companies avoid the risk entirely; nevertheless the moral hazard is responsible for a very large share of the insured fire waste. The physical hazard is more susceptible of measurement and analysis. Underwriters divide it broadly into two classes—the internal hazard, which is the hazard of the occupancy, and the external hazard, which is the hazard of the exposure, that is the surroundings of the risk. With this second class may also be included such hazards as lightning, sparks from chimneys or locomotives.

It would be practically impossible to name the various causes of the origin and spread of fire, which enter into the determination of the hazard. A glance at the fire tables published by the Chronicle Company, of New York, will, however, show that the most important factor is that of exposure to burning property. According to these tables about 30 per cent. of the fire waste results from exposure, or in other words, nearly one-third of the fire loss is caused by the spreading of fire from the building in which it originates to other buildings. Defective flues and heating apparatus, incendiarism, spontaneous combustion, defective electric wiring and lights, are all prolific causes of fire, while buildings of inferior construction, of unusual height or of very large area add to its spread.

Following the theory that insurance rates are assessed according to the hazard, the fire loss on planing mills that burn is expected to be made good by premiums collected for insuring all planing mills. Similarly losses on buildings occupied for mercantile purposes are expected to be paid out of premiums collected for insuring such buildings. Pursuing this theory the thought will suggest itself that the well planned, substantially built and carefully managed planing mill, supplied with modern appliances for fighting fire, should carry a lower rate of premium than the flimsily constructed, carelessly run and poorly protected plant, even though both be classed as having the planing mill hazard. This, of course, will apply with equal force to the varying hazards of two mercantile buildings.

Underwriters recognize this, and not only are risks divided into classes according to hazard, but an attempt is made to analyze and estimate the hazard of each individual risk of the class.

UNEVEN DISTRIBUTION OF THE FIRE WASTE.

Let us go one step farther. The fire waste of the country is not by any means evenly distributed—climatic conditions, the character of the people, strict or lax enforcement of laws, and many other features contribute to the extent of the fire waste. The hot, dry climate of Arizona is much more conducive to the spread of fire than is the moist, fog laden air of the northern coast counties of California, and following our general theory the insurance rates on all classes of hazards in Arizona, for example, should be higher in proportion for the amount insured than on similar hazards in the sections situated more favorably climatically. The aim is to estimate and collect the premium on fire insurance in such a manner that any given class of risk in all sections of the country, and all classes of risks in any given section of the country, shall be what might be termed self-supporting.

This is exactly what the insurance companies are endeavoring to do by the use of rates graduated to suit the hazard. Like rates for like hazards is the theory. In early times, and in fact up to within the last forty years, the companies seem to have paid very little attention to the classification of hazards—rating methods were very crude, and the rates were based entirely upon the judgment of the underwriters making them, which judgment when formed from meagre information could be hardly more than a guess. The judgment method continued to be used for many years, in fact is in use at the present time at many points, and with the help of improving systems of classification by the companies gradually became productive of results fairly satisfactory in character. The rates were usually made by or with the assistance of special agents of the companies, who from long experience in investigating fire losses had absorbed a fund of information and knowledge, but under the working of the plan little attention could be paid to detail, and the resulting rate was more in the nature of the rater's general impression of the comparative hazard of the property rated. Too much depended also on the personal element in rating under such a plan. A rate might easily be given one risk by the person rating it entirely at variance with the rate given by another person to a neighboring risk of the same construction and occupancy. One person's experience and judgment varied from another's, producing varying results. It was to meet these and other objections to the plan that

THE PRESENT METHOD OF TARIFFS AND SCHEDULES

was finally devised. It is not claimed that the present method is by any means perfect, simply that it is an improvement over the old methods. These tariffs and schedules usually represent combined action, and are generally the result of the work of a large number of companies associated together. Briefly, the schedules fix an arbitrary basis rate for all risks of a given class, additions to and deductions from this basis rate being made for each particular in which the risk to be rated departs from a standard described in the schedule, which in some cases goes into the minutest details of hazard. In a general way it may be said that the basis rate represents the unknown and unanalyzed portion of the hazard, while the additions to the basis rate represent that portion which has been analyzed and in part measured. While the foundation of the schedule is in a great measure judgment, the judgment is based on the combined experience and classification of many companies. True, the judgment of the underwriters still differs, and the schedules in use in one part of the country may differ materially from those devised by other underwriters for use in another part. As the schedules are usually intricate and complicated, it has been found convenient, I might perhaps say necessary, for the associated companies to employ trained experts to apply them and to advise the companies and their agents of the resulting rates.

There are many of these rating associations in the United States, each covering a certain defined territory, and all working along practically the same lines, although as stated above both methods and results may differ. In the Pacific West there are three such organizations—the Rocky Mountain Underwriters covers Colorado, Wyoming and New Mexico; the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific covers California, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah and Arizona; the Washington Insurance Association covers the State of Washington.

The lecturer here went into the details of some of these tariffs and hazards, using for illustration those in use in California by the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific,

THE CO-INSURANCE CLAUSE.

To explain the operation of the co-insurance clause Mr. Kellam said:

One other feature I should like to allude to before dismissing this schedule, and that is the proportion of insurance to value. In towns having good fire departments experience has shown that comparatively few fires occur which entirely consume the property insured. By far the greater number of fires are extinguished long before that point is reached. Unless some special provision is inserted in the ordinary fire insurance policy, the company pays the entire amount of any loss that may occur up to the full amount of the policy, and many property owners, relying upon this and upon the efficiency of the fire department, are content to carry a small amount of insurance in proportion to value.

It will be readily seen that as the great majority of fires result in small losses, those who carry light insurance compared with value will in the long run receive from the companies more money for losses in proportion to the premium paid than do those who carry comparatively full insurance to value, provided the rate of premium is the same, whether the insurance be light or full. To some extent this is equalized in the schedule by a provision that on certain classes of risks, if a specified proportion of more than 70 per cent. of insurance to value is carried, a reduction is made in the rate, the provision applying to such

cities and towns as have fire departments and water supplies of a certain degree of efficiency.

This feature is called "co-insurance," and receives its name from the requirement in the insurance contract wherever it is introduced that if the owner permits his insurance to fall below a certain proportion of the value of his property he shall become a co-insurer with the company for the deficiency, and as such shall bear a share of the loss. Underwriters generally admit that the use of this feature should be more universal. It provides in a simple way for the equalization of insurance to values, and it is a pretty well settled theory that such equalization is absolutely necessary as a basis for perfectly fair and equitable rates. The principle has been recognized for many years in several European countries where the companies are compelled by law to incorporate this feature in the policies they issue. On the other hand in several of the States of the United States the laws prohibit the application of this principle by the companies—doubtless owing to an entire misconception by legislators of its purpose.

I have here the rates on a well known building in San Francisco, showing the operation of the schedule and the principle of co-insurance:

Defects and departures from standard charged for—		
Basis rate	$1.00	
Five stories high	.10	
Lighted by electricity	.02	
Concealed roof space	.04	
Wooden ceilings	.11	
Occupancy charge	.10	
		$1.37
Special features—		
Street hydrant on large main nearby; Outside standpipe for fire department	$0.14	
Allowance for San Francisco fire department	.70	
		.84
Final rate		$0.53

Now if the owner of the building is willing to take out insurance on it equal to 70 per cent. of its value he can obtain the insurance at 45 cents per hundred instead of 53 cents. If he is willing to insure up to 80 per cent. of its value he pays 42 cents per hundred, and for insurance based on 90 per cent. of its value he pays 40 cents.

It is quite true the charges for the different departures from the standard are arbitrary, and it is not claimed that they exactly measure the hazard—no information obtainable by the companies could demonstrate, for example, that the addition of a fourth and fifth story to a building would warrant an addition of just 10 cents to the rate. The main point is that the charges and allowances are uniform, and that in the case of all brick buildings the charge for the two additional stories is 10 cents. No discrimination is made among property owners, and the charge is as fair for one as for another. * *

In conclusion the lecturer said:

Before closing I can only say that while we freely confess many faults in our present system of rating much can be said in its favor. It is more than probable that some classes are rated too high, and some too low, but the opportunity given by the system for a comparison of results by the different companies tends gradually to the elimination of these faults, and in fact many modifications have been made in the schedules described since they were first adopted. Again, the charges are absolutely uniform, and two risks having exactly the same estimated hazard are given exactly the same rate.

That the present scales of rates are as a whole not far out of the way, but if anything too low rather than too high, over the country at large, is shown by the tabulation of the profits of sixty of the largest companies for a period of ten years ending December 31, 1904, the latest obtainable figures. This tabulation shows that on the combined premium income of $1,214,368,123 the profit to the companies was $28,925,165, or only 2.38 per cent.

(*Continued from page* 236.)

port direct to the head offices of the companies at Toronto, but the agencies of the British America insurance company of New York, which have also been under Mr. Hayes' management, will hereafter report to W. R. Townley, general agent at Chicago. Mr. Townley will also act in a supervisory capacity for the two Toronto companies in the Northwestern States.

All the **referees** in an arbitration under the Maine standard policy **must be absolutely impartial** is the decision of the Supreme Court of Maine in the case of Charles W. Young against the Ætna insurance company. The following is a digest of the opinion:

1. All the referees provided for in the Maine standard fire insurance policy to fix the amount of loss must be disinterested men, not only in the narrow sense of being without relationship and pecuniary interest, but also in the broad sense of being competent, impartial, fair and open minded and substantially indifferent in thought and feeling between the parties and without partisanship or bias either way.
2. When it appears that even one of the referees was not thus disinterested the award in which he joined will be set aside.
3. An unexplained refusal by a referee nominated by the insurance company to agree upon any man in the vicinity of the property as the third referee is unreasonable, and is evidence of want of the requisite disinterestedness. Such refusal, coupled with the explanation that it is because of the objection of the insurance company thereto, shows disqualifying partisanship.

A New Orleans special to the *Journal of Commerce* says that Insurance Commissioner McGivney, of **Louisiana**, has made public his report to the Legislature, in which he recommends **sweeping changes in the laws** governing life companies in the State. He urges that the Commissioner be given the power to make the most thorough investigation of the life companies, and suggests that Louisiana should follow other States with regard to the organization of companies under its laws and amend the present life insurance statutes so as to require all life insurance companies to deposit $100,000 of its securities with the State Treasurer before issuing any policies. This deposit should remain, he claims, in the hands of the State Treasurer for the security of the policyholders of the company so long as it has any policy obligations outstanding in the State.

Arson charges have grown out of the suit of Mrs. C. A. Norris, of Raleigh, N. C., against the North Carolina Home insurance company for $500, the amount of a policy carried on a house owned by her in Wake County and burned in November last. In filing an answer to the suit the insurance company, in refusing to pay the claim, stated that the burning "was done by an agent in the interest of the alleged owner." Mrs. Norris then promptly started suit for $50,000 damages for slander and libel against the insurance company. A few days later Insurance Commissioner Young, who had been investigating the fire, caused the arrest of M. T. Norris, husband of Mrs. Norris, charging him with setting fire to the house "secretly and with intent to defraud." He was held under $1,000 bonds for a hearing.

At Paris on Saturday last the Correctional Tribunal began the hearing of an **action for alleged defamation of character and slander,** brought by Eloy Duboin, a lawyer, against the Equitable Life Assurance Society of New York and Percy Peixotto, the society's director general in Paris. M. Cruppi, on behalf of his client, said that M. Duboin had formed an association for "the protection of Frenchmen" insured in the Equitable, and that M. Peixotto had complained to the Minister of Justice that M. Duboin was conducting a campaign of calumny and blackmail. The Minister of Justice, he said, investigated the charges and exonerated M. Duboin. M. Cruppi charged, also, that the Equitable Society had issued defamatory circulars.

The eleventh annual banquet of the **Indiana Association of Life Underwriters** was held on Saturday night at Indianapolis at the Commercial Club. Ernest L. Killen was toastmaster. Mayor Bookwalter delivered the address of welcome. The toasts and responses were: "Life Insurance from the Ethical Standpoint," the Rev. F. O. Ballard; "The Medical Examiner and the Applicant," Dr. R. O. McAlexander; "Life Insurance

and the Hereafter," Alfred F. Potts; "The Insurance Press," Dr. H. C. Martin; "Tribulations of the Agent," John Dolph, Cincinnati, Ohio; "The National Association," Charles W. Scovel, Pittsburgh, Pa. Among the musical numbers of the evening the solo "Kathleen Mavourneen" was sung.

Following the action of the New York Grand Lodge of the **Order of United Workmen** in raising rates the Illinois Grand Lodge has ordered a 35 per cent. increase on all members over fifty-five years old. As existing rates are not sufficient to meet the rapidly increasing death claims, and as the members over fifty-five are furnishing the bulk of the losses, it was held that the increased burden should fall upon them. Last November the Michigan Grand Lodge adopted the same policy, but the increased revenues were not sufficient to make good the deficit, and it is to have another meeting this month to devise other plans for meeting the overdue death claims.

The manager of the Federal Lloyds in Chicago, F. H. Osborne, placed the **insurance on the steamer Atlanta**, of the Goodrich fleet, which was burned in midlake on Sunday, suffering a total loss. It was insured for $110,000, but Mr. Osborne refused to give out the list, claiming that a number of the companies that were on were not in the habit of writing winter insurance on the lakes and would not care to have the fact known. It is reported, however, that fully half of the line was placed in London underwriters, while the Federal Lloyds and the Dubuque Fire and Marine, which Mr. Osborne represents, had large lines.

The **loss of the Peavey elevator** at Duluth, the heaviest of the year so far in the West, has been settled as to the building. The value is fixed at $313,312, the loss at $289,834, the insurance at $275,000, and the loss to companies $263,261, which is a trifle over 96 per cent. The grain is being handled for account of the companies, the offers made by the salvage companies being too small because of the organization of a pool among them. A great deal of the grain is still in the slip, but arrangements are being made to suck it out and have it dried, and the companies expect to realize considerable salvage.

The sub-committee of the Committee of Fifteen appointed by the Chicago insurance convention is engaged in preparing bills for legislation in the various States. In an interview given out by Mr. O'Brien he says:

> This committee does not approve the selecting ultimate method of valuation. It does approve the valuation of preliminary one year term policies as term insurance the first year, and therefore the forms of policies so prepared will include many forms of one year preliminary term policies. The sub-committee is directed to prepare bills embodying the principles set forth in the recommendations made by the Armstrong Committee.

The committee on **sprinklered risks** of the Chicago Board has reported that there are 447 such risks **in Chicago**, of which 377 are placed by the board members, and seventy are outside. Of these 137 are mercantile risks and grain elevators, leaving 240 sprinklered manufacturing risks. The new schedule adopted by the Chicago Board for rating high grade manufacturing risks includes all but 100 of these factory plants. The application of the schedule to sixty of the risks shows a reduction of 33 per cent. on the buildings, from 83 to 56 cents, and 36 per cent. on contents, from $1.08 to 69 cents.

Some of the Western Union managers have been unable to understand the remarkably low **loss ratios shown by the Iowa companies** in comparison with their own showing. It is now explained by an officer of one of the Iowa companies that the gross premiums written, a large percentage of which are represented by notes which are never paid, are taken as a basis of calculating the loss ratio against the net losses paid, after deducting reinsurance. He holds that if the loss ratio were figured on the same basis as that of the outside companies it would run nearer 50 per cent.

The Democratic primaries in Arkansas show a very close vote between **Jeff Davis** and Senator James H. Berry for the United States Senatorship now occupied by the latter, whose term expires next year. On Thursday complete returns from a majority of the seventy-five counties in the State showed a lead of 2,000 for Berry, and his friends are now hopeful of defeating the arch demagogue. The insurance interests in the State have undoubtedly favored Berry. Attorney General Rogers has been defeated in his race for the governorship nomination by John S. Little.

By order of the Civil Service Commission twenty-five men holding temporary position in the **Boston fire department** were discharged last week, the commission holding their employment to be illegal. Fire Commissioner Wells, of Boston, states that the discharge of these men leaves the department in a crippled condition, due to the law giving the men one day off in five, and that from now on the city will be inadequately covered, especially during the vacation season; that it will be necessary to get back to using call men.

So far two men have been **convicted of conspiracy to defraud** the Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee by means of a body blown up in the Three Jacks Tunnel at Cripple Creek, Col., on January 22, which was claimed to be that of J. J. McEachern. The live "dead" man made a full confession, and later John Varley, alias Jack Crowley, an accomplice, was convicted. Varley supplied the proofs of death necessary to carrying out the swindle. Others of the conspirators are yet to be tried.

An **examination of the Pacific-Conservative Life** under the joint supervision of the Insurance Departments of California, Washington and Oregon will be made at once, and Commissioner Wolf, of California, has sent a request to Consulting Actuary S. H. Wolfe, of New York, to take charge of the examination. The proceeding takes place at the special request of President Tupper, and the Commissioners consent with the understanding that the entire expense will be borne by the company.

For the loss by fire of a building insured for $400 in the Liverpool and London and Globe during the levee **race riots at Springfield, Ohio**, two years ago, Sarah McBreen, the owner cannot recover. Her suit was dismissed by Judge Kunkle a few days ago in the courts there, when the insurance company resisted payment in view of the recent Supreme Court decision sustaining the terms of the policy that no insurance can be collected for losses caused by insurrection or riot.

The suits begun by the county attorney of Atchison, Kan., against the special agents of the German American Fire Association of Philadelphia, Springfield, Hartford and Phenix, charging them with **violation of the anti-trust law** of Kansas, have been dismissed. The suits grew out of the Atchison rate war of last November. On the first hearing of the case last month the jury disagreed, and the authorities have decided that further prosecution would be useless.

Offices will be opened April 1 at Atlanta, Ga., by the **Security Fire of New Haven** through which all the company's

Southeastern business will hereafter be transacted. McClure Kelly will be manager of the new department, having resigned as special agent for the St. Paul Fire and Marine, with which he only recently became connected. The territory under the jurisdiction of the Atlanta office embraces Florida, North and South Carolina and Virginia.

The **situation at St. Paul, Minn.,** where a rate war has been threatened for some time, is more ominous than ever. The non-board companies have increased from fourteen to nineteen, and the organization which they formed is becoming aggressive. Several months ago it was believed that a compromise could be reached between the two organizations which would permit amalgamation. That is now believed to be impossible.

The **General Fire insurance company of Paris** has appointed Starkweather & Shepley its representatives for surplus lines. This is one of the oldest of the French offices, organized in 1819, and it has never transacted business outside of France before. The last quotation of its 1,000 franc shares on the Bourse was 29,500 francs. Its capital is 2,000,000 francs, and its funds, exclusive of capital, 23,000,000 francs.

The **Northwestern Mutual Life** of Milwaukee, in which company Frank N. Day, who disappeared last November from Denver, Col., leaving a discrepancy of $3,300 on his books, carried a $3,000 policy, has joined in a search for him in the belief that he has committed suicide. Day was manager of the Western Cement and Lumber Company, but lost his money as well as his employer's in stock speculation.

The basis of the rumors in regard to the **firm of Hall & Henshaw** is the fact that Mr. E. K. Beddall has made an amicable proposition to withdraw. No partner can do this without the consent of all, and the matter is at present undetermined. While Mr. Hall has been ill he is recovering, and has no thought of retiring, nor has the firm of Hall & Henshaw any intention whatever of dissolving.

An aeronaut, William Van Fleet, secured an accident policy of $2,000 from the Pacific Mutual Life, claiming to be a railroad brakeman. In fact he was an aeronaut, which is a prohibited class, and was killed October 7, 1904, by falling from a balloon at Grand Junction, Col. The widow sued, but the decision was in favor of the company, and she has now appealed to the Supreme Court of Colorado.

The **Northern of London** will celebrate its seventieth anniversary in June of this year, and the company is asking its agents for a special amount of preferred business in recognition of the event. A special dwelling house policy form has been prepared, of a size which will go in the ordinary typewriter, with other convenient features.

The committee of company officials, which was expected in **Boston** Wednesday to confer with the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters on the **proposed 20 per cent. commission agreement** respecting business in the metropolitan district outside of the city proper, did not show up, and has set Thursday of next week for its visit to the Hub.

Indiana has admitted the National Lumber of Buffalo and the Metropolitan Fire of Chicago. The following companies have made applications for admission into the State: The Georgia Home of Columbus, Ga., Virginia State of Richmond, Hamilton Fire of New York, and Jefferson Fire of Philadelphia.

The **Nashville Board of Trade** will ask the Legislature for authority for the city to issue bonds to meet the requirements of the underwriters in the way of fire protection. An effort is being made to secure a schedule of rates, based upon the specified improvements, so that the rates would be reduced as fast as the work is completed.

Organized on the legal reserve basis the **Empire Life of Atlanta,** Ga., has received its charter from the Secretary of State. The capital stock is $100,000, which may be increased to $5,000,000. The incorporators are William W. Reid, S. C. Calloway, C. A. Langford, Thomas M. Calloway and Samuel Burnett.

With San Francisco as its home, articles incorporating the **West Coast Life insurance company** have been filed. The company begins business with $200,000 capital paid in and $300,000 surplus. Dr. George A. Moore is president and Julian Sonntag secretary.

The improvements in the **water supply at Spokane, Wash.,** are being pushed rapidly. Larger mains are being installed and an additional reservoir constructed, the work to be completed by summer, when another reduction in rates will be made.

The **steamer Plymouth of the Fall River Line** was insured for $700,000, of which $7,500 was in the Palatine, $2,500 in the Fire Association of Philadelphia, and the remainder was placed in non-admitted British marine insurance institutions.

The **Ætna Life** will lose nothing by the **shortage** of $20,000 found in the accounts **of T. P. Hayes,** the St. Louis agent of its life insurance department, the bond and value of the agency more than offsetting the irregularity.

Absolute denial is made by President Orr, of the New York Life, of the charge by Samuel Untermyer, counsel for Lawson, that the company has spent $30,000 in securing proxies of policyholders to keep itself in power.

The latest advices from the bedside of **President Pattison,** of the Union Central Life, represent him as doing better, and his friends still hope for his ultimate recovery. He is not attending to public business.

The charter of the **International Life of Fort Worth, Tex.,** with a capital of $125,000, has been approved by the Attorney General of Texas and filed with the Insurance Department of that State.

The nominations of **A. I. Vorys for Insurance Superintendent** and H. D. Davis for fire marshal, sent in by the Governor, have been rejected by the Ohio State Senate.

The next convention of the **National Association of Fire Engineers** will be held at Roanoke, Va., August 14, 15 and 16.

The **Hawkeye Fire** of Des Moines after confining its business to Iowa for forty years, has entered Illinois.

The **Milwaukee Mechanics** insurance company has begun the writing of tornado insurance.

The **Star Fire of Louisville** has increased its capital stock from $200,000 to $300,000.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Aachen and Munich: Richard B. Ellis, special agent for Wisconsin, with headquarters in Milwaukee.

Citizens Fire of Clarksville, Ark.: Daniel Woodcock & Co., surplus line agents for the United States on policies not exceeding $1,000.

City of New York insurance company: Walter L. Wilcox, special agent for New England, with headquarters at Boston.

Continental: Charles M. Slocum, special agent for New Jersey, beginning April 1; Charles Peters, late of the American of Pennsylvania, special agent for eastern New York, with headquarters at Albany.

Hawkeye Fire of Des Moines: Shipman & Wayne, Cook County agents.

Jefferson Fire of Philadelphia: F. W. Wood, Salem, Mass.; John H. Madden, Lynn.

National Life of Vermont: Howard Martin, late of the Mutual Life at Columbus, Ohio, general manager of the Central Ohio district of the National Life of Vermont.

Ohio German, Security of Baltimore, and Millers' Mutual of Alton: M. W. Fugit & Co., Cook County, Illinois, agents.

St. Louis Fire (new): W. C. Davis, special agent for Illinois and Missouri.

Mr. Walter L. Wilcox, stamp clerk of the Lowell, Mass., Board of Fire Underwriters, has been appointed special agent for New England of the City of New York Fire, following the demise of the late Henry R. Turner, who was general agent of the company for that section. Prior to his connection with the Lowell board Mr. Wilcox had seen active service in the New England field, which will stand him in good stead in his new position.

Mr. Henry A. Sampson, lately stamping clerk at Atlanta, and prior to that the Atlanta representative of the *Insurance Field*, has been appointed special agent of the St. Paul Fire and Marine for Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, with headquarters at Atlanta. Mr. T. L. Cunningham has been appointed special agent for Georgia, Florida and Alabama, with headquarters at Atlanta.

Mr. Samuel G. Parsons, special agent for New England of the Fire Association of Philadelphia, is very ill at his residence in the Norfolk House, Boston, and on account of his advanced age—eighty-two—the end may come at any moment. Mr. Parsons is the oldest active member of the New England Insurance Exchange, and deservedly beloved by his colleagues.

Ex-President James W. Alexander, of the Equitable Life, arrived at a private sanitarium at Deerfield, Mass., on Thursday, where he plans to remain several weeks, in recovering from the effects of two surgical operations which were performed in New York recently. Mr. Alexander is still in a weakened condition, but he is recovering his strength daily.

Mr. Paul L. Woolston, formerly with the New York Life, has accepted the position of actuary and assistant secretary of the Louisiana National Life Assurance Society of New Orleans. When first organized the company was known as the Inter-State Assurance Company. Mr. Woolston was connected with The Spectator Company at one time.

Mr. Bertram C. Day has been elected second vice president of the American Central Life insurance company of Indianapolis, Ind. Mr. Day has made a record with the company as supervisor of agents for Indiana. The American Central reports an increase in new business for the first quarter of 1906 of nearly double the amount for the same period of 1905.

Mr. James North Lane, accident manager of the Commercial Union of London and former general manager and secretary of the Palatine of Manchester, died March 24 at his home in Dulwich, a suburb of London, after several months' illness from Bright's disease. He was sixty-five years of age.

Mr. Jesse M. Wheelock, formerly general agent of the Northwestern Mutual Life for Rhode Island, with headquarters at Providence, has been appointed successor to the late Oliver Williams, of Denver, Col., as general Western agent of the company.

President Hiram Tyree, of the Continental Life of Salt Lake City, Utah, has been committed for trial there under $10,000 bail, charged with certifying to a false report of the company's business to the Secretary of State. His arrest occurred February 3.

Mr. Edward L. Rosenfeld, general manager of the Western Life Indemnity Company, has resigned as managing director in order to further the reorganization and transfer of the policies of the company to the American Mutual Life of Chicago.

Deputy Insurance Commissioner Purtell, of Wisconsin, has announced publicly that he is a candidate for the nomination for Insurance Commissioner on the next Republican State ticket in place of Commissioner Host, who will not run again.

Chairman McTavish and Counsel Shepley, of the Royal Commission engaged in investigating insurance in Canada, were in New York city this week seeking pointers. It is understood that they have secured the services of Actuary Dawson.

Mr. Henry M. Hart, one of the pioneer life underwriters of St. Paul, Minn., died there March 19, aged sixty-eight years, from pneumonia. He was associated with E. W. Peet & Co., who represented the Mutual Life in the Northwest.

Mr. J. Woods Brown, formerly special agent of the Fire Association of Philadelphia, has been transferred to the home office as general agent to supervise the business from the middle department, formerly in charge of William Muir.

Manager Edson S. Lott, of the United States Casualty Company, is so much better of his recent serious attack of pleuro-pneumonia that he will go to Lakewood, N. J., next week to get the finishing touches to his recuperation.

Agent S. V. Duckworth, of the Equitable Life at Parkersburg, W. Va., has been arrested, charged with taking out policies under ficticious names, forging death certificates and collecting the amounts of the policies.

Mrs. Mary E. Whiton, mother of John M. Whiton, of John M. Whiton & Co., of New York city, died at the home of her son March 29, aged ninety-seven years. Burial was made in Mount Auburn Cemetery, Boston.

Mr. P. D. McGregor, Western manager of the Queen, will address the students in the business course of the University of Illinois on April 3. His subject will be "Fire Insurance and Rate Making."

Mr. John D. Miner, a veteran appraiser connected with the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, died March 23 at his home in New York from heart disease. He was seventy-two years old.

Mr. Calvin F. Troupe, the well known executive special of the Mutual Life of New York, is reported to have transferred his services to the Northwestern Mutual Life, says a Chicago news item.

Mr. Joseph Braden, a veteran fire underwriter of Chariton, Ia., who had represented the Home, Hartford and North America for over thirty years, died March 22 at his home there.

Mr. Frederick W. Stardart has purchased the fire insurance business of the late Robert Brennan at Denver, Col., which will be continued under the old name.

Judge Andrew Hamilton has been unanimously re-elected president of the Albany Club, and is to have a loving cup from the members.

Mr. Judd W. Cone, of the Boston office of the John Hancock, died Saturday at Newton, Mass., aged forty.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

Senate Bill No. 13, by Mr. Warren, providing for an investigation of the insurance business in the State, has passed both the Senate and House. The committee will be composed of two Senators and three Representatives, and report to the next Legislature on new laws. The principal provision defining the scope of the inquiry and recommendations is as follows:

Said commission shall have the power to thoroughly investigate the system, practice, character and policies of all insurance companies, and all insurance written by the insurance companies doing business in this State; to examine all the methods employed by them in transacting their business, their relations to other corporations, the salaries paid to their officers and employees, their securities and investments, the relation of the officers and members of said companies to said investments, their relation to or with other corporations transacting business with said insurance companies, the amount of taxes paid by them, their liability to their policyholders, the cost of insurance, the expenses of said companies, the relation of said insurance companies to subsidiary corporations; to examine into all expenditures of said companies, and the said commission is hereby authorized and empowered to require and enforce the attendance of witnesses and the production of books and papers, and any member of the commission is hereby authorized to administer oath; and said commission shall have access, at all times, to the office of the Auditor of State, and the said Auditor shall render to the commission such aid and assistance as is within his power to give.

A substitute for House Bill No. 282, by Mr. Conn, requiring an annual apportionment of dividends of life companies has been reported by Chairman English, of the House Insurance Committee.

Mr. Cummings' bill, House No. 5, intended to prevent a monopoly on steam boiler and plate glass insurance, as amended by the Senate Insurance Committee, has passed both houses.

Kentucky.

Governor Beckham has vetoed the House resolution No. 21, by Mr. Miller, providing for a legislative committee of seven to revise the insurance laws.

Bills affecting insurance and becoming laws automatically without the Governor's approval were as follows: House 390, Requiring domestic life insurance companies to keep on deposit with the State Treasurer securities to the amount of business

written; Authorizing the State to discontinue insurance on the State buildings; Releasing fraternal insurance organizations from the requirements of State insurance laws in certain particulars, and Senate bill requiring burial associations to file articles of incorporation with the Commissioner of Insurance.

The State Fire Warden Bill, by Mr. Watson, providing for a rigid investigation of fire losses, has been already signed by the Governor, as previously announced. This was the only general bill affecting foreign fire insurance companies to become a law.

The important general measures were all killed in committee. Such was the fate of Senator Ecton's bill requiring life insurance companies operating in Kentucky to invest 80 per cent. of the total reserve on all outstanding policies in the State. The bill of Senator George, requiring legal reserve companies to apportion the surplus to each policy on or before its third anniversary, met a similar fate. The bill of Senator Linn, limiting the salaries of officers of life companies operating in Kentucky to $50,000, also died in committee. The bill of Mr. Clay, House No. 124, requiring annual dividend distribution, was never even reported. A similar fate befell the annual dividend bill of Mr. Miller, House No. 292, which passed the lower body.

In fire insurance legislation, Mr. Johnson's bill, House No. 316, "preventing unjust discrimination in rates by fire insurance companies," was never reported.

Maryland.

The resolution of Mr. Melis, providing for an investigation of life insurance companies doing business in Maryland, has not yet been reported from the House Judiciary Committee. Mr. Murphy's bill taxing unauthorized companies has passed the House, as has Mr. Lehmayer's bill prohibiting deferred dividends running over five years.

Mr. Cunningham in the House has introduced a bill, No. 530, granting thirty days of grace in the payment of premiums on life, endowment, indemnity, accident or casualty insurance policies before the policy can be cancelled or invalidated.

Massachusetts.

Boston, Mass., March 29.—Hearings were given this week by the Joint Committee on Insurance to the bills to prohibit the issuance of deferred dividend policies in Massachusetts. Reginald Foster, on behalf of five Massachusetts companies, stated that he believed the provisions of the bills should be restricted to domestic companies on account of possible retaliation from other States. He said that otherwise he had no objection to the bills, and intimated that in any case all the Massachusetts companies would hereafter issue annual dividends only.

It has just been discovered that House Bill 788, now under consideration by the Committee on Mercantile Affairs, and calling for legislation to prevent monopolies on articles in common use and to prohibit restraints of trade, contains sweeping provisions for the prevention of insurance rate making compacts, with drastic penalties for violation of said provisions. Several hearings favorable to the bill have taken place, but now that underwriters have begun to "sit up and take notice" of "the nigger in the woodpile" dissenting voices of no uncertain sound may be expected to make themselves heard before the measure is reported upon.

Mississippi.

Mr. Elmore has introduced Senate Bill No. 184, amending the law establishing an insurance department in reference to the investments of insurance companies.

New York.

Albany, N. Y., March 30.—The Armstrong bill legislating out of office the trustees of mutual life insurance companies of New York, and providing for elections of new trustees on November 15 next, such trustees to hold office for the next two years ensuing, passed the Senate on Wednesday and the Assembly on Thursday without opposition. A feeble attempt to oppose the bill in the Senate was made by Mr. Malby, but he was evidently worried by the newspaper criticism, and after standing a browbeating from Mr. Brackett he ignominiously retreated from his position under the excuse that he was bowing to "public opinion." The bill was sent to the Governor, and he is expected to sign it without delay.

The Joint Committee of the two houses and the Armstrong Committee held a long session Wednesday night, and on Thursday introduced several more bills, which were today reported back from the Insurance Committees. They will probably be considered in both houses early next week. The following is an outline of these bills, several of which have been amended from their original forms:

The bills relative to lobbying and political contributions and the code amendments relative to perjury, false entries, receiving rebates, and acquisition of property are reported with only formal amendments. The amendments to the insurance law generally relative to standard forms and co-operative and assessment insurance are incorporated in one bill, and the changes are largely formal except that it is provided that every foreign company must do business within the limits of expenses laid down for the regulation of domestic companies or must leave the State.

Section 87, relating to contingency reserves, is amended so that the $100,000,000 limit is reduced to $75,000,000. The effect of this is that after a company has accumulated $75,000,000 of assets it may have not only a 5 per cent. reserve, but annually the Superintendent of Insurance may permit the company to hold a larger reserve to meet depreciation of other emergencies.

Section 97, relating to loadings on premiums, is stricken out. Section 98, relating to the limitation of expenses, is materially modified. It provides that a company's first year's expenses for first year's business must not exceed first commissions to agents; second, salaries exclusively paid for new business paid in lieu of commissions; third, medical and inspection fees; fourth, advances to agents shall not exceed the loadings and margins originally provided.

This allows about 50 per cent. for new business to agents on ordinary life contracts. The agents are also allowed nine renewals of 7½ per cent. each, with a 2 per cent. collection fee after the tenth year. The companies are given the privilege to compute these nine payments over any period not less than three years, and providing that not more than two-fifths of the commuted amount shall be paid in any one year.

The section relating to investments is also modified to the extent of permitting the companies to hold the collateral trust bonds they now have, but not to accumulate any more of this class of securities.

This change will save the companies from disposing of about $100,000,000 of collateral trust bonds which they now hold, and they will not be compelled to sell them with their stocks. All the rest of the section stands as originally drawn.

The changes in the section relating to standard forms of policies are wholly actuarial. It is provided that the standard form shall go into effect January 1, but prior to October 1 the Superintendent of Insurance, after consultation with the companies and after a hearing, may modify the forms, but only to the extent that they will not conflict in any way with the general law on the subject.

(*Continued on page 247.*)

Life Insurance Business in Delaware in 1905.

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna Life	4	$8,034	112	$154,919	$5,127	$20,315
Baltimore	30	21,575	30	24,562	1,284	80
Connecticut Mut.	17	44,300	121	229,084	3,931	5,279
Equitable, N. Y.	73	233,380	693	2,405,600	85,645	3,000
Fidelity Mutual	29	67,000	165	316,413	11,824	5,500
Manhattan	20	50,550	84	144,611	3,309	5,000
Massachusetts Mut.	15	26,000	21	48,000	2,420	------
Metropolitan	441	331,712	1,143	905,223	39,397	6,596
Mutual Benefit	7	16,920	108	300,401	8,873	8,000
Mutual Life	298	375,078	2,586	4,395,254	165,738	34,278
National	192	296,741	580	844,357	33,329	1,000
New England Mut.	37	68,500	212	517,014	14,301	5,000
New York Life	215	450,519	922	1,682,407	67,494	12,390
Northwestern Mut.	35	82,000	175	583,267	20,119	6,000
Penn Mutual	47	122,135	519	2,018,915	75,170	27,890
Phœnix Mutual	----	------	12	13,500	601	------
Provident L. & T.	68	188,967	797	2,526,863	93,778	6,782
Provident Savings	45	24,552	56	80,494	5,011	3,000
Prudential	365	314,814	1,566	1,412,251	48,433	14,516
Reliance, Pa.	----	------	3	3,000	240	------
Security Mutual	1	444	3	3,796	104	------
Security T. & L.	6	4,500	59	69,945	3,503	1,000
Travelers	14	41,355	201	424,606	13,873	1,564
Union Mutual	----	------	12	24,311	591	------
United States	82	138,400	79	128,400	1,970	1,000
Washington	13	24,121	58	99,616	3,776	2,031
Totals, 1905	2,054	$2,931,597	10,317	$19,353,013	$709,831	$164,221
" 1904	2,016	3,211,731	8,913	19,568,354	718,513	258,050
" 1903	1,883	2,733,388	8,886	18,295,291	628,230	176,473
" 1902	2,003	2,921,366	8,176	17,362,477	594,624	163,789
" 1901	----	3,279,010	----	16,139,478	583,025	252,349
" 1900	1,550	3,099,017	6,156	14,968,519	512,833	229,051
" 1899	----	2,821,744	----	13,857,480	388,963	151,909
" 1898	1,121	2,404,563	4,624	12,316,753	420,187	196,000
" 1897	----	2,232,569	----	------	478,837	186,910

INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS.

Baltimore	1,554	$175,271	1,421	$118,570	$9,266	$1,884
Equitable, D. C.	29	2,361	29	2,361	4	------
Home, Del.	3,719	314,842	9,811	1,059,853	39,375	10,995
Metropolitan	11,501	1,764,853	40,223	5,770,721	185,654	54,842
Prudential	13,275	1,660,075	60,041	6,796,393	257,278	76,813
Totals	30,078	$3,917,402	111,525	$13,747,898	$491,577	$144,534

Fire Insurance Business in Delaware in 1905.

(Compiled from a Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Stock Companies of Delaware.			
Delaware Fire, Dover	$1,863,661	$15,398	$3,432
Wilmington Fire, Wilmington	7,500	66	------
Totals	$1,871,161	$15,464	$3,432
Mutual Companies of Delaware.			
Cantwell, Odessa	$30,180	$4,944	$42
Delaware State Grange, Dover	232,230	1,948	1,614
Farmers, Wilmington	7,705,611	39,496	10,704
Kent County, Dover	7,807,710	37,103	11,573
New Castle County, Wilmington	6,544,769	18,341	3,664
Totals	$22,320,500	$101,832	$27,597
Stock Companies of Other States.			
Aetna, Hartford	$1,762,955	$20,099	$7,032
Agricultural, Watertown	720,100	4,795	2,702
American Fire, Philadelphia	1,034,571	9,002	1,518
American, Boston	106,465	1,089	1,770
America, Newark	310,261	1,669	619
Assurance Co. of America, New York	107,565	844	452
Boston, Boston	395,968	4,682	1,975
British American, New York	53,847	616	82
Camden Fire, Camden	152,282	1,620	4
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	671,700	8,981	1,385
Continental, New York	740,269	5,377	1,997
County Fire, Philadelphia	136,750	1,584	103
Delaware, Philadelphia	263,688	3,376	1,298
Equitable F. and M., Providence	230,820	1,692	80
Fire Asso. of Philadelphia, Phila.	938,650	10,067	569
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	229,945	2,184	247
German Alliance, New York	426,844	6,337	2,480
German American, New York	617,832	6,561	5,814
Germania Fire, New York	297,650	1,792	431
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	576,914	4,848	1,482
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	681,754	10,627	856
Hanover Fire, New York	587,034	6,783	58
Hartford Fire, Hartford	1,108,808	13,360	688
Home, New York	3,561,843	33,273	11,309
Home F. and M., San Francisco	108,237	1,385	822
Insurance Company of N. America	659,848	7,648	931
National Fire, Hartford	1,389,664	14,676	1,516
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	299,577	3,515	582
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	1,657,985	13,652	2,447
Phenix, Brooklyn	835,310	9,197	3,665
Phœnix, Hartford	405,683	4,174	497
Providence-Washington, Providence	347,378	3,042	2,933
Queen, New York	671,184	7,759	573
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	1,269,496	14,749	3,275
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	422,317	4,921	597
Star Fire, Louisville, Ky.	26,400	1,237	373
St. Paul F. and M., St. Paul, Minn.	458,840	4,888	2,284
Traders, Chicago	226,438	2,776	741
Union, Philadelphia	204,125	1,688	241
United Firemens, Philadelphia	96,242	1,355	755
Westchester Fire, New York	340,582	2,884	3,949
Totals	$26,178,076	$260,803	$71,128
Mutual Companies of Other States.			
Mutual of Chester Co., Coatsville, Pa.	$573,193	$24,444	$11,201
Foreign Companies.			
Aachen and Munich F., Aix-la-Chapelle	$229,370	$3,085	$775
British American, Toronto	105,442	1,396	1,278
Caledonian, Edinburgh	120,805	1,606	574
Cologne Reinsurance, Cologne	178,605	2,574	307
Commercial Union, London	411,696	4,717	1,030
Liverpool and London and Globe	1,065,133	14,033	2,868
London Assurance Corporation	194,595	1,513	1,834
Moscow Fire, Moscow	278,083	3,246	369
North British and Mercantile, London	337,428	3,136	2,120
Northern, London	960,470	10,464	3,002
Norwich Union Fire, Norwich	201,334	1,643	251
Palatine, London	223,194	1,606	2,225
Phœnix, London	514,294	8,307	2,178
Royal, London	4,891,460	29,770	12,270
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	180,040	2,349	1,625
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	253,033	3,305	202
Skandia, Stockholm	272,967	2,643	251
Sun, London	118,200	2,377	------
Union, London	175,840	2,172	452
Western, Toronto	817,793	8,455	1,486
	$11,529,782	$108,395	$35,096
Totals, 1905	$62,472,712	$510,938	$148,452
COMPARISON WITH BUSINESS OF PREVIOUS YEARS.			
1904	$51,878,270	$479,089	$197,458
1903	57,560,927	451,557	267,868
1902	55,993,138	456,977	139,741
1901	32,336,537	261,078	129,236
1900	29,110,700	239,315	129,706
1899	25,477,146	208,805	167,809
1898	25,868,395	193,463	108,355
1897	23,195,688	192,292	32,991
1896	21,374,849	181,285	134,387
1895	21,721,522	184,958	74,208
1894	19,679,838	176,117	158,662
1893	21,171,739	179,317	82,945
1892	21,215,579	159,084	112,860
1891	20,220,720	136,335	161,464
1890	20,535,854	139,616	87,044
1880 to 1899	137,671,459	1,015,238	681,089

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 54.4. The percentage in 1905 was 29.0.

Fire Insurance Business in Wisconsin in 1905.

(Compiled from the Preliminary Statement of the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Stock Companies of Wisconsin.			
Concordia, Milwaukee	$9,975,967	$123,384	$23,434
Germantown, So. Germantown	1,128,797	17,930	11,288
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	4,780,382	62,458	16,441
Milwaukee German, Milwaukee	317,700	4,913	628
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	14,383,439	190,301	39,440
Northewestern National, Milwaukee	15,133,265	154,050	31,531
United American Fire, Milwaukee	2,724,209	35,523	11,144
Totals	$48,443,759	$588,360	$133,906
Mutual Company of Wisconsin.			
Herman Farmers, Herman	$3,394,036	$28,898	$21,689
Stock Companies of Other States.			
Aetna, Hartford	$9,916,405	$100,096	$32,868
Agricultural, Watertown	2,978,200	39,590	15,547
Allemannia Fire, Pittsburgh	684,328	11,316	4,297

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
American Central, St. Louis	4,295,735	77,228	25,403
American Fire, Philadelphia	3,329,413	48,295	24,434
American, Boston	831,461	13,012	6,175
American, Newark	10,057,854	157,556	46,723
Anchor, Cincinnati	287,370	9,628	4,128
Assurance Co. of America, N. Y.	1,002,560	14,394	9,331
Atlanta-Birmingham, Atlanta	479,356	14,966	6,090
Boston, Boston	3,534,893	11,400	14,344
British American, New York	982,037	20,275	8,916
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	441,625	6,718	5,119
Buffalo German, Buffalo	1,386,041	18,284	4,806
Calumet, Chicago	1,536,062	22,831	2,170
Camden Fire, Camden, N. J.	1,609,330	38,166	13,917
Capital Fire, Concord, N. H.	1,297,846	20,890	8,801
City of New York, N. Y.	553,000	8,495	61
Citizens, St. Louis	2,678,830	57,882	22,977
Colonial, New York	874,166	24,342	10,017
Columbia, Jersey City	200	5	------
Commerce, Albany	611,151	7,808	4,250
Commercial Union Fire, N. Y.	769,674	14,005	3,805
Commonwealth, New York	1,366,325	14,210	2,096
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	5,653,305	95,406	39,885
Consolidated F. & M., Al. Lea, Minn.	1,104,354	18,786	1,076
Continental, New York	7,575,893	110,497	37,272
Delaware, Philadelphia	1,896,471	31,512	4,031
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	2,089,956	25,368	11,729
Dubuque Fire and Marine, Dubuque	1,246,200	30,048	12,040
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	453,456	6,617	3,598
Eagle, New York	1,126,069	22,801	2,806
Eastern, Atlantic City	265,944	3,171	1,251
Equitable F. and M., Providence	2,529,169	44,029	20,551
Farmers and Merchants, Lincoln	940,309	13,292	3,022
Federal, Jersey City	1,299,755	19,710	1,753
Fire Asso. of Philadelphia	7,401,338	146,168	51,928
Fire Insurance Co., Philadelphia	1,108,492	19,050	9,669
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	6,251,513	88,106	22,448
Firemen's, Newark	3,499,115	40,906	15,237
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	875,652	14,383	8,094
German Alliance, New York	2,766,393	48,915	12,003
German American, New York	7,806,699	137,646	49,869
German Fire, Indianapolis	2,327,076	41,656	17,412
German Fire, Peoria	1,781,732	31,484	11,833
German Fire, Pittsburgh	1,423,880	18,054	5,480
German Ins. Co., Freeport	9,144,237	124,717	50,099
German National, Chicago	2,132,368	36,372	8,283
Germania Fire, New York	5,657,050	71,175	15,862
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	1,284,512	16,180	7,977
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	2,492,509	28,592	8,278
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	1,445,140	44,499	34,766
Hamilton Fire, New York	216,387	6,573	1,308
Hanover Fire, New York	414,460	108,379	42,214
Hartford Fire, Hartford	19,682,005	377,758	153,141
Home F. and M., San Francisco	2,895,540	44,242	12,263
Home Insurance Co., New York	16,755,572	240,374	107,713
Indemnity Fire, New York	413,975	9,572	4,979
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	1,380,633	24,810	8,014
Insurance Company of N. America	11,729,130	153,157	60,273
Ins. Co. of State of Ill., Rockford	3,319,392	48,613	16,463
Liverpool & London & Globe, N. Y.	409,502	10,314	3,107
Lumbermens, Philadelphia	1,016,919	19,080	4,706
Mechanics, Philadelphia	1,186,418	22,573	5,403
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	1,328,252	19,359	2,817
Metropolitan Fire, Chicago	380,756	15,967	4,260
Michigan Commercial, Lansing	1,422,771	39,077	4,330
Michigan Fire and Marine, Detroit	1,304,244	27,630	5,807
Nassau Fire, Brooklyn	897,140	12,589	4,288
National, Allegheny	753,898	13,393	4,370
National Fire, Hartford	9,638,121	133,305	37,226
National Union Fire, Pittsburgh	2,779,241	46,906	14,330
New Brunswick F., New Br's'k, N. J.	82,290	1,278	494
Newark Fire, Newark	854,590	12,512	3,766
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	4,772,147	58,680	14,819
New York Fire, New York	924,345	14,422	6,088
Niagara Fire, New York	4,991,084	76,715	23,972
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	477,019	9,507	236
North German Fire, New York	1,694,489	31,693	14,183
North River, New York	2,733,481	41,249	10,138
Northern, New York	720,091	9,852	7,183
Northwest F. and M., Minneapolis	977,868	14,152	1,718
Orient, Hartford	3,016,801	56,317	21,216
Pelican, New York	291,349	7,066	6,190
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	4,887,312	81,866	27,805
Phenix, Brooklyn	18,994,299	332,804	133,312
Phoenix, Hartford	11,174,142	150,313	59,184
Pittsburgh Insurance Co., Pittsburgh	487,435	8,413	1,239
Providence-Washington, Providence	5,025,546	86,140	27,372
Queen, New York	6,019,619	124,062	56,567
Reliance, Philadelphia	1,728,052	27,661	7,961
Rochester German, Rochester	2,855,104	55,664	11,514
Security Fire, Baltimore	1,157,500	15,372	2,679
Security, New Haven	5,750,936	80,492	33,168
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	7,236,235	98,520	46,084
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	3,154,154	76,487	32,003
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	6,797,093	134,715	38,332
Star Fire, Louisville	405,008	7,186	2,929
Teutonia, New Orleans	904,378	14,017	5,740
Traders, Chicago	3,189,213	78,679	18,868
Union, Philadelphia	952,771	14,602	3,989
United Firemens, Philadelphia	1,786,675	24,792	6,241
United States Fire, New York	1,417,672	24,106	9,213
Westchester Fire, New York	4,902,182	74,398	28,599
Western Insurance Co., Pittsburgh	53,550	958	------
Williamsburgh City Fire, Brooklyn	2,296,340	35,898	11,915
Totals	$330,717,578	$5,334,743	$1,916,264

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Mutual Companies of Other States.			
American Mfg. Mut., Indianapolis	$254,750	$4,541	------
American Guarantee Fund, St. Louis	69,833	502	------
Central Mfg. Mutual, Van Wert, O.	1,129,926	18,073	$14,819
Farmers Fire, York, Pa	1,127,082	19,559	9,708
Indiana Lumbermens, Indianapolis	130,000	3,488	5,957
Indiana Millers Mutual, Indianapolis	323,750	6,907	------
Lumber Mutual Fire, Boston	279,775	7,413	6,801
Lumbermens Mut. Fire, Mansfield, O.	125,575	2,560	5,957
Merchants Mut., Redfield, S. Dak.	89,250	3,555	1,524
Michigan Millers Mutual, Lansing	1,274,420	22,048	6,597
Millers Mutual Fire, Alton, Ill	46,500	4,160	------
Millers National, Chicago	1,151,625	38,451	18,328
Totals	$6,002,486	$131,257	$69,691
Foreign Companies.			
Aachen & Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$2,130,863	$39,396	$12,852
Atlas, London	3,982,139	50,298	22,507
British America, Toronto	3,646,227	63,842	31,339
Caledonia, Edinburgh	976,170	14,447	6,346
Commercial Union, London	11,861,856	118,089	52,623
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	2,514,850	54,876	27,531
Law Union and Crown, London	546,195	7,835	164
Liverpool and London and Globe	10,193,262	194,300	42,183
London Assurance, London	3,552,773	48,865	29,402
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	4,207,823	83,807	21,326
N. British and Mercantile, London	7,115,236	122,141	24,449
Northern, London	4,647,890	86,770	24,253
Norwich Union, Norwich	3,526,825	71,922	23,853
Palatine, London	2,492,605	51,941	18,514
Phoenix, London	3,340,714	64,686	25,400
Prussian National, Stettin	3,057,869	47,819	25,156
Royal Exchange, London	1,553,841	35,907	7,763
Royal, Liverpool	9,258,025	167,601	62,705
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	3,075,983	64,036	22,314
State Fire, Liverpool	250,396	5,547	80
Sun, London	4,867,932	62,997	24,045
Svea, Gothenburg	1,750,334	25,074	11,027
Trans-Atlantic Fire, Hamburg	186,087	3,720	56
Union, London	1,964,954	26,292	8,070
Western, Toronto	9,530,744	117,449	57,377
Totals	$100,231,593	$1,629,686	$581,334
Grand Totals, 1905	$488,789,451	$7,712,944	$2,722,883
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$464,939,532	$7,571,674	$2,580,491
1903	436,869,338	7,344,656	3,379,454
1902	397,008,059	5,884,544	2,223,773
1901	383,682,262	5,241,571	2,884,153
1900	381,888,615	5,049,132	2,633,244
1899	344,924,622	4,500,713	2,289,624
1898	315,255,053	4,303,621	1,869,538
1897	292,895,316	4,218,525	1,600,554
1896	271,402,055	4,255,283	1,833,119
1895	276,592,519	4,438,985	2,995,474
1894	260,086,892	4,323,644	2,823,431
1893	285,731,373	4,429,768	3,124,279
1892	279,587,965	4,140,420	3,333,970
1891	250,419,473	3,514,517	1,517,358
1880 to 1890	2,000,873,867	27,501,600	16,361,296

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above is 52.7. The percentage in 1905 was 35.3.

Fire Insurance Business in Maryland in 1905.

(Compiled from the Preliminary Statement of the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Companies of Maryland.			
Baltimore Equitable, Baltimore	$2,214,333	$58,862	$6,598
German, Baltimore	23,971,799	163,899	51,231
German-American, Baltimore	8,055,313	47,791	14.793
Security, Baltimore	1,981,972	15,529	1,330
Totals	$36,223,417	$286,081	$73,952
Companies of Other States.			
Ætna, Hartford	$5,248,644	$54,827	$16,562
Agricultural, Watertown	3,700,000	36,729	7,212
Alliance, Philadelphia	179,745	2,196	------
American, Boston	906,635	10,941	1,276
American, Newark	1,571,038	16,599	3,562
American Central, St. Louis	1,227,281	18,650	4,097
American, Philadelphia	4,016,378	43,560	17,883
Anchor, Cincinnati	617,563	14,380	6,327
Assurance Co. of America, N. Y.	710,827	7,006	688
Ben Franklin, Allegheny	423,964	7,098	2,275
Boston, Boston	7,068,615	52,780	16,143
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	751,453	7,133	441
Buffalo German	1,979,667	14,184	610

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Calumet, Chicago	325,357	3,460	708
Camden Fire, Camden	1,121,676	14,556	2,453
Citizens, St. Louis	1,106,346	17,721	7,261
Colonial, New York	793,396	10,187	2,361
Columbia, Jersey City	10,700	96	------
Commerce, Albany	491,617	4,576	1,165
Connecticut, Hartford	2,261,700	27,371	4,925
Continental, New York	7,529,811	83,189	27,365
County Fire, Philadelphia	940,693	9,268	386
Delaware, Philadelphia	702,863	10,368	1,009
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	716,006	9,500	798
Eagle, New York	753,783	9,790	1,075
Equitable F. and M., Providence	1,097,118	13,433	2,311
Equitable, Charleston	------	2,297	------
Farmers, York, Pa	3,152,729	38,246	14,770
Federal, Jersey City	996,107	9,160	1,098
Fire Association, Philadelphia	4,461,212	54,634	13,279
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	8,123,804	72,254	13,716
Firemen's, Newark	2,551,882	23,691	3,807
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	994,302	12,181	2,337
Georgia Home, Columbus	1,631,143	16,800	2,163
German Alliance, New York	530,204	7,037	288
German American, New York	8,337,131	99,036	21,804
German American, Pittsburgh	603,721	8,592	1,678
German Fire, Peoria	859,428	12,665	3,336
German, Pittsburgh	748,940	7,922	------
German, Wheeling	546,908	6,467	302
German, Freeport	3,064,409	27,538	3,471
Germania, New York	6,904,165	47,395	12,714
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	1,851,816	23,642	7,110
Glens Falls	2,188,381	18,005	4,032
Globe & Rutgers, New York	1,554,070	27,830	19,082
Granite State, Portsmouth	862,771	8,888	1,777
Hanover Fire, New York	5,328,589	52,127	15,378
Hartford Fire, Hartford	12,247,623	145,397	27,759
Home, New York	21,991,922	215,566	78,475
Home F. and M., San Francisco	1,187,865	14,088	2,412
Indemnity, New York	367,723	4,916	1,478
Insurance Co. of N. America, Phila	16,385,607	115,904	69,967
Insurance Co. State of Pennsylvania	793,899	9,549	476
Kent County Mutual, Del	2,491,126	13,436	5,536
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	324,078	4,047	422
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	530,204	5,905	26
Milwaukee Mechanics	2,216,050	22,308	4,591
National Fire, Hartford	6,549,758	72,180	11,535
National Union, Pittsburgh	2,286,587	27,670	2,352
New Hampshire, Manchester	3,039,563	30,338	5,292
Niagara, New York	2,413,831	28,308	4,859
North British and Mercantile, N. Y	674,230	5,631	54
Northern, New York	498,952	6,416	356
North German, N. Y	991,316	9,367	75
North River, N. Y	826,293	11,208	1,847
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	3,874,733	21,375	3,039
Orient, Hartford	1,537,402	14,903	1,395
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia	7,434,087	90,267	36,492
Petersburg Savings, Petersburg, Va	264,361	3,269	------
Phenix, Brooklyn	6,486,709	71,418	14,297
Phœnix, Hartford	4,101,688	44,923	9,514
Providence-Washington, R. I	4,406,647	42,419	18,023
Queen, New York	2,117,307	20,642	4,402
Reliance, Philadelphia	617,389	6,474	2,275
Rochester German, Rochester	1,468,441	18,522	4,935
Security, New Haven	1,030,972	9,561	2,330
Springfield Fire and Marine	4,249,517	54,452	14,133
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	1,335,667	21,074	2,190
Star Fire, Louisville	205,093	7,374	2,741
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	3,191,093	31,103	8,522
Traders, Chicago	1,055,167	13,230	1,167
Union, Philadelphia	1,523,926	14,444	2,490
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	329,571	5,183	2,094
United States, New York	405,416	5,272	2,225
Westchester, New York	2,976,067	35,164	6,817
Williamsburgh City, New York	802,432	10,936	2,340
Totals	$26,774,894	$2,360,244	$630,018
Foreign Companies.			
Aachen and Munich	$902,557	$11,081	$1,423
Atlas, London	1,602,635	19,209	2,381
British America, Toronto	1,509,850	21,335	3,660
Caledonian, Edinburgh	1,825,171	20,850	6,300
Commercial Union, London	4,288,897	46,868	8,586
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	424,291	4,773	90,709
Law, Union and Crown, London	599,436	6,666	------
Liverpool and London and Globe	6,596,577	70,114	13,463
London Assurance Corporation	1,788,265	22,556	5,436
London and Lancashire	4,627,058	35,961	4,994
North British and Mercantile	7,844,911	89,283	16,340
Northern, London	7,634,584	63,204	15,747
Norwich Union, Norwich	3,790,790	42,101	13,350
Palatine, London	1,543,814	14,654	2,649
Phœnix, London	5,742,406	70,974	22,204
Prussian National, Stettin	1,058,407	7,747	1,046
Royal Exchange, London	2,212,123	23,705	7,168
Royal, Liverpool	5,833,812	84,253	28,064
Scottish Union and National, Edinb'h	2,009,916	23,504	1,459
State, Liverpool	382,935	4,383	1,237
Sun, London	4,325,395	52,899	7,995
Svea, Gothenburg	1,240,937	11,529	524
Union, London	2,240,600	23,655	4,113
Western, Toronto	4,785,864	48,236	10,433
Totals	$74,811,231	$819,540	$269,463
Grand Totals, 1905	$337,809,542	$3,465,865	$973,433

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiuns Received.	Losses Paid.
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$334,718,862	$3,493,065	$30,017,102
1903	258,207,763	2,765,225	1,538,614
1902	273,598,054	2,656,983	1,280,166
1901	248,965,210	2,314,758	1,548,013
1900	250,383,873	2,136,651	1,168,806
1899	224,838,054	1,969,315	700,765
1898	317,971,930	1,882,027	1,032,022
1897	218,278,386	1,949,998	768,190
1896	201,213,720	1,763,268	793,271
1895	206,288,859	1,841,560	722,576
1894	214,414,675	1,859,261	954,875
1893	217,470,280	1,750,443	1,546,829
1892	222,927,705	1,690,010	956,298
1891	211,591,612	1,568,268	873,099
1880 to 1890	2,322,677,802	14,586,764	8,951,964

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 102.4. The percentage in 1905 was 34.5.

Life Insurance Payments.

The following is the report of the life insurance companies doing business in the United States to The Weekly Underwriter of the death claims and endowments paid by them during the month of February, 1906:

Date of Organization.	Companies.	Death Claims.	Endowments.	Total Payments.
	Ætna Life	$203,901	$185,424	$389,325
	American Central, Ind	1,000	------	1,000
	Baltimore Life	9,864	12,738	22,602
	Boston Mutual	6,534	------	6,534
	Central Life	------	------	------
	Citizens Life	5,000	------	5,000
	Colonial Life	14,042	------	14,042
	Columbia Life	------	------	------
	*Columbian National Life	6,837	------	6,837
	Connecticut General Life	25,023	9,761	34,784
	Connecticut Mutual Life	437,578	25,200	462,778
	Des Moines Life	10,500	------	10,500
	Equitable Life, Des Moines	12,227	------	12,227
	Equitable Life, New York	1,344,143	194,361	1,538,504
	Federal Life	5,291	------	5,291
	Fidelity Mutual	115,313	------	115,313
	Franklin Life	23,607	------	23,607
	Germania Life	36,557	42,358	78,915
	†† Hartford Life	------	------	94,885
	Home Life	86,950	29,050	116,000
	Inter-State Life	1,104	------	1,104
	* John Hancock Mutual Life	348,743	9,067	357,810
	Manhattan Life	34,363	3,418	37,781
	Maryland Life	9,070	5,448	14,518
	Massachusetts Mutual Life	200,672	31,000	231,672
	Meridian Life and Trust	7,000	------	7,000
	*Metropolitan Life	1,278,679	4,500	1,283,179
	Michigan Mutual Life	23,545	45,649	69,194
	Minnesota Mutual Life	------	------	------
	Mutual Benefit Life	363,256	101,685	464,941
	Mutual Life	1,679,578	364,635	2,044,213
	Mutual Reserve Life	68,013	------	68,013
	National Life U S. A	18,297	------	18,297
	National Life, Montpelier	129,113	22,500	151,613
	Nederlands (U. S. Branch)	1,474	------	1,474
	New England Mutual Life	166,010	33,544	199,554
	New York Life	1,473,909	222,535	1,696,444
	Northwestern Mutual Life	654,523	76,047	730,570
	Pacific-Conservative Life	50,916	4,609	55,525
	Penn Mutual Life	223,217	118,984	342,201
	Phœnix Mutual Life	79,301	12,822	92,123
	Provident Life and Trust	164,188	145,588	309,776
	Provident Savings Life, New York	161,436	------	161,436
	† Prudential	1,069,369	2,730	1,072,099
	Reliance Life	4,000	------	4,000
	Security Mutual Life	56,023	------	56,023
	Security Trust and Life	------	------	------
	State Life	9,307	------	9,307
	State Mutual Life	158,071	18,500	176,571
	Travelers	120,307	69,359	189,666
	Union Central Life	110,349	36,127	146,476
	Union Mutual Life	47,501	7,596	55,097
	United States Life	64,593	4,000	68,593
	Washington Life	58,574	52,472	111,046
	Canada Life	88,932	17,918	106,850
	Sun Life of Canada	------	------	------
	Totals	$11,267,800	$1,909,625	$13,272,310

* Partially industrial insurance. † Report includes both industrial and ordinary business. †† Report includes death claims and endowments.

Payments Since Organization.

The following table shows the total amount reported paid on death claims and endowments, from their organization to February 28, 1906, inclusive, by the life insurance companies whose monthly reports are printed in THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER:

Date of Organization.	COMPANIES.	Death Claims.	Endowments.	Total Payments.
1850	Ætna Life	$66,199,777	$31,562,026	$97,761,803
1899	American Central, Ind	195,701	------	195,701
1898	Baltimore Life	2,987,184	86,479	3,073,663
1899	Boston Mutual Life	503,302	------	503,302
1896	Central Life	82,605	------	82,605
1904	Citizens Life	19,000	------	19,000
1898	† Colonial Life	448,482	------	448,482
1903	Columbia Life	10,568	------	10,568
1902	* Columbian National Life	268,613	------	268,613
1865	Connecticut General Life	3,738,577	1,293,303	5,031,880
1846	Connecticut Mutual Life	128,534,468	16,759,850	145,294,318
1885	Des Moines Life	1,932,480	------	1,932,480
1867	Equitable Life, Des Moines	1,373,174	305,153	1,678,327
1859	Equitable Life, New York	271,222,835	34,532,688	305,755,523
1900	Federal Life	118,796	------	118,796
1879	Fidelity Mutual	12,409,942	------	12,409,942
1884	Franklin Life	2,178,612	------	2,178,612
1860	Germania Life	30,868,521	12,155,192	43,023,713
1867	†† Hartford Life	------	------	29,285,339
1860	Home Life	15,398,783	4,044,859	19,443,642
1897	Inter-State Life	173,071	------	173,071
1862	* John Hancock Mutual Life	39,647,774	2,211,789	41,859,563
1850	Manhattan Life	34,473,747	5,827,982	40,301,729
1864	Maryland Life	3,034,214	261,812	3,296,026
1851	Massachusetts Mutual Life	29,981,591	4,898,531	34,880,122
1898	Meridian Life and Trust	47,821	------	47,821
1867	* Metropolitan Life	153,121,498	922,040	154,043,538
1867	Michigan Mutual Life	6,881,950	3,370,997	10,252,947
1901	Minnesota Mutual Life	3,922,778	------	3,922,778
1845	Mutual Benefit Life	115,278,671	14,166,338	129,445,009
1843	Mutual Life, New York	336,100,772	73,284,461	408,385,233
1881	Mutual Reserve Life	60,150,279	------	60,150,279
1868	National Life U. S. A.	7,874,376	353,989	8,228,365
1850	National Life, Montpelier	15,578,078	2,842,703	18,420,781
1893	Nederlands Life (U. S. Branch)	1,463,743	1,000	1,464,743
1844	New England Mutual Life	48,956,073	9,677,846	58,633,919
1845	New York Life	241,317,703	54,287,293	295,604,996
1857	Northwestern Mutual Life	87,561,497	22,021,480	109,582,977
1868	Pacific-Conservative Life	6,564,152	1,298,521	7,862,673
1847	Penn Mutual Life	42,808,183	8,890,044	51,698,227
1851	Phœnix Mutual Life	26,662,861	5,093,401	31,756,262
1865	Provident Life and Trust	22,378,025	15,615,346	37,993,371
1878	Provident Savings Life, New York	20,883,054	21,955	20,905,009
1876	† Prudential	97,070,003	269,273	97,339,276
1903	Reliance Life	52,798	------	52,798
1887	Security Mutual Life	3,593,271	------	3,593,271
1895	Security Trust and Life	2,728,137	5,151	2,738,439
1894	State Life	1,679,161	------	1,679,161
1845	State Mutual Life	14,393,533	3,161,085	17,554,618
1871	Travelers	19,144,582	4,625,482	23,770,064
1866	Union Central Life	15,851,081	4,228,060	20,079,141
1867	Union Mutual Life	19,082,160	6,124,732	25,206,892
1849	United States Life	17,530,948	2,469,317	20,000,265
1850	Washington Life	21,997,655	9,510,651	31,508,306
1850	Canada Life	18,819,369	2,509,112	21,328,481
1847	Sun Life of Canada	------	------	------
	Totals	$2,075,296,049	$358,689,941	2,462,276,459

* Partially industrial insurance. † Report includes both industrial and ordinary business. †† Report includes death claims and endowments.

(*Continued from page 243.*)

Senator Gardner has introduced a bill, No. 767, providing that any duly authorized insurance agent with an office and conducting a business in this State may place automobile insurance covering everywhere in the world under a floating form of policy, against hazards of fire, marine, collision and theft in any foreign Lloyds, and such Lloyds shall not be required to obtain any license to do business in New York State in order to enable it to assume any such risks.

Mr. Thompson has introduced in the House a bill, No. 1,378 relating to corporations, persons or individuals agreeing to pay sick benefits for the expense of burials, compelling them to conform to the insurance laws, and subjecting them to the supervision and control of the Insurance Department.

The Senate Insurance Committee has reported Senator Smith's bill, No. 755, extending the corporate existence of the Richmond County Mutual insurance company; also his bill, No. 367, permitting mutual fire insurance companies or associations of other States to do business in this State. The first named bill passed the Assembly today.

Mr. Wells has introduced in the House a bill, No. 1,272, amending the laws relating to the incorporation of health, accident, casualty, burglary and fidelity insurance companies.

Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 26.—There will be no insurance legislation this session. This was decided upon tonight by the House Committee on Insurance. After hearing from George W. Scrugham, of the Policyholders' Association, and Collin Ford, representing the insurance companies, the committee went into executive session. There it was decided not to recommend any of the pending bills. Instead, Chairman Stewart was directed to prepare a joint resolution calling for the appointment of a joint commission of three Senators and three Representatives.

This commission will sit during the recess and report its findings and a codification of all insurance laws of Ohio in January, 1908. The General Assembly will be asked to appropriate a sufficient amount for expenses, the figure now being $50,000. This arrangement has been agreed to by Senator Ward, of the Senate Insurance Committee, and has the approval of Insurance Superintendent Vorys.

Both the policyholders and the insurance men have also given their approval to the plan. It is agreed that it would be useless at this time to attempt the passage of any radical bills. The New York Legislature has not acted, and there are no safe beacon lights by which to steer. Chairman Stewart will report the finding of the committee tomorrow, and the Revision Committee will be asked to find a place on the special calendar for it.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 29.—The Senate today adopted the Stewart joint resolution providing for the appointment of a committee of investigation to sit after adjournment and recommend legislation.

Miscellany.

The Life Insurance Agents of New York Have Luncheon and an "Intellectual."

There was a luncheon attended by 250 life insurance agents in the Flatiron Restaurant, New York, on last Saturday afternoon, under the direction of the Life Underwriters' Association of New York. Mr. T. Reed Fell, president of the association, acted as master of ceremonies, and when the cigars circulated called on Mr. William C. Johnson to say a few words about "Section 98" of the Armstrong bill, which touches the pockets of all life insurance agents.

Mr. Johnson said that he had it "from good authority" that the objectionable section would be so modified so as to give general satisfaction. He commented favorably on the action of the Buffalo and Rochester associations, which sent committees to call on leading politicians to present their objections to the Armstrong bills. He advocated similar action in New York city.

Charles J. Edwards, Brooklyn manager for the Equitable Life, and chairman of the executive committee of the association, was introduced. He commented on the benefits of organization in the present crisis, and drew a comparison between the work of the individual and that of an organization 300 strong. He said that at the present time the companies were not in a position to protect either the interests of themselves or their agents to any marked degree, so it was up to the "man who pounded the sidewalks for prosperity" to be up and doing. He spoke of

the activity of the associations of Pittsburgh, Boston and other cities in backing up the New York underwriters at the present time as very encouraging. "We have got to treat each other fair and square," continued Mr. Edwards. "I don't doubt I have done as many wicked things in the way of aggressive work and hot fights over prospects as any one of you, but I now believe the time has arrived when every man may know that his brother agent will not do him foul. As Mr. Hughes well said: 'There is nothing secret about life insurance.'"

Mr. Edwards said in concluding that he believed that the association could go further today than ever before in knocking out "twisters." "Let us give each other the right hand of fellowship," was his parting admonition.

Mr. Fell read a letter of encouragement from Congressman J. A. Golden, a member of the association. Cards of the Anti-Rebate Bureau of New York, 220 Broadway, of which Albert G. Shepard is secretary, were passed around the tables, and a number of signers were secured. A photograph of the gathering was taken at the conclusion of the luncheon, which one member referred to as a "deferred" photograph, so long were the victims kept in suspense. Then there was a scramble for the coat rooms, and the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p. m. Herbert N. Fell and Charles Wake composed the committee of arrangements.

The Proposed Limitation of Agency Expenses—Statement from William C. Johnson, of the Phoenix Mutual Life.

The Insurance Committee has acknowledged the soundness of the objections raised by the agents against the limitations of agency expenses first proposed, by making a considerable modification of Section 98. The original section was so drastic that its passage would have legislated the agents out of business. The committee, in the amended section just introduced, has set up a standard of agency expense for *all* companies which is a trifle lower than the present expense basis of those now most conservatively and economically managed. Personally, I think the agents of the better companies will be able to do business under the limitations now proposed, and believe the standard set up is one to which many, but not all, of the other companies could ultimately attain. It will mean a very radical cut, but it probably can be done.

It is obvious to an insurance man, however, that these restrictions will be very burdensome to the smaller and weaker companies. The committee seemingly overlooks the fact that limitations which will not interfere with old and conservative companies, known everywhere for their economy of administration and large dividend earnings, and already possessing a well organized agency force, will seriously affect those companies which are less known to the public, and whose agency management has been less efficient. We do not want any more giant companies, but the more well managed medium sized companies we have the better for the public. The smaller companies should accordingly be fostered and built up.

The proposed restriction will render this almost impossible, unless its operation is postponed until at least January 1, 1908, so that the smaller organizations may have opportunity to adjust their affairs to the new standard gradually, without that impairment of efficiency which would certainly follow an immediate change. It is all right to establish the standard of the best companies as one with which all must comply; but unfortunately the human equation enters even into the management of corporate affairs, and the ability of a company to get an adequate amount of new business at very moderate expense depends upon its character and reputation, its past record and the efficiency of its agency management. These qualities cannot be created by statute. Economy without efficiency will prove a vain attribute, expensive to the policyholder. If we are to have all the companies legislated into a uniform condition of economy, sufficient opportunity should be given the smaller organizations to readjust their agency arrangements in a way which will not seriously impair their ability to build themselves up into stronger and more useful institutions. The balance of 1906 is not sufficient for that purpose, and injury will be done, particularly to the smaller New York State companies and their agents, unless more time is given.

The limitation of gross expenses to total loadings and mortality margins will also handicap the smaller companies, while it will hardly affect the larger ones. A company with a large volume of old business in force has ample expense loadings with which to conduct its operations; while a younger or smaller company, lacking the expense fund from old business, is at a great disadvantage. This is particularly true of companies having in force a considerable amount of non-participating business on which the expense loadings are but nominal. A new company certainly could not start business under such a law. This can hardly be the intention of the committee, but the limitations proposed will most seriously affect the operations of those smaller companies in whose upbuilding the State should be most interested.

The situation would be improved by including in the expense fund the surrender charges. The law specifically recognizes a surrender charge, the purpose of which is that the man who breaks his contract with his fellow policyholders and retires by taking a cash value should pay a fine sufficient in amount to cover the cost of procuring another good risk to take his place. Otherwise, as good lives retired, there would be an undue proportion of impaired lives, and a higher mortality. Yet the committee's bill does not permit the companies to spend these charges for the sole purposes for which they are intended. They should obviously be included in the sum available for expenses.

The intelligent and honest agents whose views we have voiced welcome pending reforms, which will lead to greater efficiency and economy in both home office and agency methods. They have suffered, not profited, from past evils, and the elimination of the rebating and high pressure agents will be most satisfactory to them. Realizing that some companies can even now comply with the standard suggested, and willing personally to assent to the proposition that most of them could do so ultimately, it is nevertheless proper that I should, speaking for the agents of all the companies, and having in mind the best interests of the business as a whole, call attention to imperfections in the law and to the hardship it will impose on many smaller companies, whose future usefulness and even solvency depend upon the fostering care of the State.

The inclusion of the surrender charges in the fund available for expenses, and a postponement till 1908 of the enforcement of the limitations of agency expense—in the case at least of all companies having less than $100,000,000 of insurance in force—would help the smaller companies to comply with the law without endangering their strength and progress. Of course any limitation of commissions or interference by the State in the details of management is wrong in principle, and reform could better be secured merely through the fundamental requirements of publicity and accountability.

But if the State is to adopt the unsound principle of limitation, the medical fees should not be included in the expense to be met from the first year's loadings, and the Legislature, upon which now rests the full responsibility for the future welfare of the business, should safeguard the interests of the smaller companies by the changes suggested above.

The Ohio Insurance Superintendent Advocates a Revised Anti-Compact Law.

Superintendent Vorys has issued Part I of the thirty-ninth annual report of the Ohio Insurance Department. He makes the following suggestions toward the enactment of a new anti-compact law or the extension of the provisions of the present anti-trust law to fire insurance companies:

Alleged combinations establishing fire insurance rates and the state of the law on that subject are continuing sources of agitation and dispute. Considerations for and against statutory restrictions of such combinations were submitted in the annual report of 1902. It was then stated that the maintenance of "preferred" classes undeniably implies inequitable and arbitrary rates, that if the anti-compact law (Section 3659) interferes with the maintenance of such rates it should not be repealed, that if it is desired to classify risks according to hazards, as shown by experience, and thus establish a more equitable basis for premium rates, the law does not interfere with such purpose, and that so long as the Legislature shall in its wisdom see proper to retain the general anti-trust statute, the same wisdom should direct the continued maintenance of the anti-compact law.

Attention was directed to the several provisions of the anti-compact law, that it does not expressly forbid agents combining to fix rates, that the prohibition against companies requiring agents to so combine furnishes the argument that agents' associations were intended to be permitted, that a "common agent to advise as to the relative value of risks" is expressly permitted, that agents' associations for the purpose of establishing and maintaining rates were in operation and bureaus for inspection

and rating maintained and that the apparently harmonious operations of most companies and a general maintenance of the same rates indicated that the law had little if any effect in preventing combinations to fix rates.

In 1898 quo warranto proceedings were commenced by the then Attorney General against eleven companies charging that, through agents' associations, the companies were maintaining combinations to fix rates unlawful by the common law and forbidden by Section 3659. The testimony, compiled in a printed volume of over 800 pages, showed the existence of the agents' associations to maintain rates, but the court dismissed the cases "on the grounds that the evidence does not support the averments of the petition against the companies" (61 O. S. 653).

In the report of this department for 1899 the then Superintendent of Insurance, after consideration of all information he had obtained, including the report of the testimony in the cases referred to above, in an exhaustive discussion of the anti-compact law and its application to agents' associations and rating bureaus, expressed the opinion "that a compact or combination to be within the meaning of the statute and to be obnoxious to its penalty, requires some positive act on the part of the company by which it surrenders to some agency its individual and independent right to control the rates," and found "that the companies licensed by this department have not parted with their individual right to exercise a supervision over rates, nor their independent discretion to reject rates and risks and therefore are not in collusion with other companies or agents in violation of Section 3659."

In 1898 quo warranto proceedings were instituted by the then Attorney General against an incorporated agents' association and there was a judgment of ouster. The association abandoned its charter and organized as an unincorporated association.

The general anti-trust law, commonly known as the Valentine act (Sections 4427-1-12 R. S.) does not name fire insurance premiums, nor do its general terms directly or by implication include fire insurance premiums as one of the subjects respecting which it forbids combinations.

Under this apparent state of the law a system developed apparently involving three classes of participants.

(1) Inspection and rating bureaus "to advise of defective structures, suggest improvements to lessen the fire hazard and to advise as to the relative value of risks" and the advice, among others, took form in schedules of advisory premium rates for sale to companies, agents and others, and on application details of physical hazards controlling such rates were furnished property owners.

(2) Agents' associations whose constitutional regulations established a bureau schedule of local, advisory rates, fined and expelled a member who issued fire insurance at less than the bureau rate, refused as a member or expelled an agent representing a company which accepted risks at less than the bureau rates and provided for a stamping secretary to receive all daily reports and to forward the same to the respective companies only when it appeared the regulations had been obeyed.

(3) Companies accepting the daily reports from the stamping secretary and receiving them otherwise or at less than bureau rates at the peril of the results set forth in the regulations of the agents' associations.

The system did not involve all companies nor all agents nor did agents who were members or companies so accepting stamped reports constantly and uniformly comply with the regulations.

The department's information now is that all such agents' associations have recently abolished the stamping secretaries and eliminated the regulations establishing the bureau rates and penalties for non-adherence to such rates.

If it is the policy of this State to forbid every combination to fix fire insurance rates by any and all who may have any control over them, then if the views respecting the law hereinbefore referred to are correct, it would seem that no very clear authority has been declared for effectuating such policy against the above described or like systems of maintaining rates.

Therefore it is suggested that either the general anti-trust act be made applicable to fire insurance premiums or a separate law to be enacted with like provisions, unqualifiedly forbidding combinations to control fire insurance premiums, but with penalty of the character hereinafter indicated. There seems no reason why fire insurance trusts should be under any less or more interdiction of the law than other trusts. Proceedings to enforce such law and its penalties could be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction with power and facilities to compel attendance of witnesses and properly determine and adjudicate all issues of fact and law, upon proper submission of the same by parties regularly having their day in court. Such proceedings could be brought by the Attorney General upon information of the Superintendent of Insurance or by the prosecuting attorney of the county where the law is violated.

Such law, while forbidding all combinations to fix rates, could not prevent associations of agents, for they may exist for many wholesome purposes, beneficial to the insuring public as well as to the agents and companies and not involving the arbitrary fixing of rates. While forbidding combinations of companies or agents of companies fixing or agreeing to maintain bureau rates, it would not interfere with the expert inspector and rating bureau in the employment and legitimate disposition of their talents.

If such law is enacted then it is suggested that the anti-compact provision of Section 3659 be repealed. The prohibition therein against companies requiring their agents to combine to fix rates raises the implication that agents may voluntarily so combine. The proviso allowing advice as to the relative value of risks has the same implication. The power to determine that there is or is not the forbidden combination should not be conferred on an executive officer without the facilities for investigation and trial possessed by the courts, to be exercised without notice or trial and where there is no procedure to compel him to act when interested persons believe they are imposed upon by such unlawful combinations, and, unless bad faith is charged, where there is no clear procedure for reviewing his proceedings.

This State is now without sufficient fire insurance facilities. The lack of sufficient licensed companies is the not infrequent occasion of owners of property of large values seeking "outside" insurance of possibly doubtful reliability and insurance which escapes the tax. In case any considerable number of companies should be guilty of a violation of this law the duty is mandatory and there is no pardoning power, their license to do business in this State must be revoked for three years. While such result would be a punishment for the companies, it could be regarded as little short of a public calamity. Penalties against companies should be inflicted by the law without harm to the people it seeks to protect. Revocation of license for such offenses punishes the insured as well as the insurer. Therefore it would seem that the penalties should be fines against offenders in such substantial sums as shall cause respect for the law, but not requiring the company to withdraw from the State the insurance facilities, more instead of less of which are requisite to satisfy the present demands of the people.

Royal INSURANCE COMPANY (FIRE) OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

Statement of United States Branch,

JANUARY 1, 1904.

Assets,	held in the U. S. for the special protection of its American Policyholders.	$8,520.383.40
Liabilities,	. . . .	5,204,870.83
Net Surplus,	January 1st, 1904,	$3,315,512.57

AGENCIES IN ALL THE PRINCIPAL CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 12 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Milwaukee.

ASSETS, $151,663,477.29

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1905 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $105.83 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1905:

395 per day in number of Claims Paid.
6,972 per day in number of Policies issued.
$1,502,484 per day in New Insurance Written.
$123,788.29 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.
$77,275.94 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks.	$79,629,477.18
Bonds and Mortgages..	38,062,610.75
Real Estate.....	17,495,905.30
Cash	4,183,912.16
Demand Loans on Collateral	3,747,285.50
Loans to Policyholders.	3,703,554.50
Prem. deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,826,755.63
Accrued Int., Rents, etc.	1,013,976.27
Total	$151,663,477.29

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves.....	$132,705,296.00
All other Liabilities.....	2,776,602.33
Capital and Surplus....	16,181,578.96
Total	$151,663,477.29

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security..... $318,264,084.12

Number of Policies in Force, 8,596,705.

Amount of Outstanding Insurance.....$1,596.509,769.00

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice President.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di.
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di.
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

HANOVER

Agencies in all the Principal Places in the United States.

Fire Insurance Company
OF NEW YORK.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.
LIMITED,
OF LONDON.
OFFICE:
Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York

Provident Life and Trust Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

National Life Insurance Co.
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Established in 1850. Operating in 44 States.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, President.
JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President.
JAMES B. ESTEE, 2d Vice-President.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary.
H. M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
A. B. BISBEE, Medical Director.
C. E. MOULTON, Actuary.
F. A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1906, and gained during the past decade:

Assets	$34,519,093.04	Gain, 184 per cent.
Surplus	3,821,752.51	Gain, 165 per cent.
Insurance	145,480,904.00	Gain, 109 per cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.
A. H. GSELLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

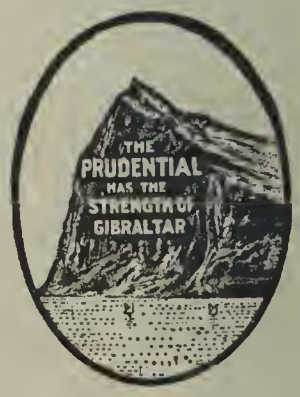
YOUNG MEN MAKE MONEY

There are opportunities to represent a big, sound, up-to-date Life Insurance Company in a profitable manner.

Prudential representatives make money. They have most varied forms of policies and advantageous contracts, with liberal commissions.

The attention of young men, particularly young men starting in business, is especially sought.

Write for full information regarding these unusual opportunities.



THE PRUDENTIAL
INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey.

JOHN F. DRYDEN, President Home Office, Newark, N. J.

GERMANIA
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
NEW YORK.
ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE
Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

CHARTERED 1866.
Hartford Life Insurance Co.
HARTFORD, CONN.
GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

Up to date in business methods—in contracts—in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.

$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.
Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.
INVESTIGATE.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.
ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1904	$2,617,755.75
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,406,159.17
Joint Stock Capital	500,000.00

The Empire State Surety Co.
EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK
391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*
WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, JR., . *President*
EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

CONSERVATIVE
PROGRESSIVE
FAITHFUL

¶ Some of the cardinal aims of the *Union Mutual* management are—to be conservative in the choice of investments—to be progressive in the prosecution of the business—to be faithful to the interests of policyholders.

Agents of like inclination cordially welcomed.

Union Mutual Life Ins. Co.
Portland, Maine
FRED E. RICHARDS, *Pres.* ARTHUR L. BATES, *Vice-Pres.*

For Territory address either
EDSON D. SCOFIELD, Superintendent, 180 Broadway, N. Y. City.
THORNTON CHASE, Superintendent, 84 Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

Western Assurance Company
HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, CANADA.
INCORPORATED 1851.
Hon. GEO. A. COX, President.
J. J. KENNY, V. P. and Managing Director.
UNITED STATES STATEMENT, JANUARY, 1906.

Assets	$2,397,608.00
Surplus in United States	782,945.00

INCORPORATED 1799.
Providence Washington Insurance Company.
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

The Union Insurance Company
OF PHILADELPHIA.
CAPITAL, - - $200,000.
STATEMENT, APRIL 1, 1904.

Bonds, Bank and Other Stocks, Market Value	$290,326.50
Demand Loans with Collateral Security	34,500.00
Real Estate, unincumbered, owned by the Company	106,500.00
Premiums in course of collection, Interest due Company and Cash in Banks and Office	222,561.32
Total Assets	$653,887.82

LIABILITIES.

Reserve for Reinsurance and other Liabilities	$280,736.85
Reserve for Losses under Adjustment and not yet due	94,533.01
Surplus to Policyholders	278,617.96
	$653,887.82

Losses paid since organization, $18,616,821.42.
CHAS. S. HOLLINSHEAD, President.
E. R. DANNELS, Secretary. M. JOS. NOWLAN, Assistant Secretary.

SUCCESSFUL LIFE INSURANCE MEN
wishing to secure a first class contract with a continuous renewal interest should communicate with

Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.
BINGHAMTON, N. Y.
CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

New policy forms with special features very attractive to prospective insurers.

FOR FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS
C. H. JACKSON, Agency Secretary.

How's Your Backbone? Can You Stand Alone?
Agents who can answer "strong" and "yes" to the above questions, and who want to be advanced more than they want advances, can secure splendid contracts with liberal renewal commission guarantees from the

Security Trust and Life Insurance Co.
BROADWAY and 26th STREET, NEW YORK.

Mr. Thomas Bradley, President
Mr. Geo. B. Luper, 2d Vice-President and General Manager

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE
Insurance Company.
1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization
A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.

Insurance Co. of North America,
232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1904		$11,290,773.87
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$5,838,363.45	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	2,452,410,42	$11,290.773.87

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

1825. THE 1906.
Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

INCORPORATED 1865.
GERMAN INSURANCE CO.
OF FREEPORT, ILL.
The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$5,546,127.97
Cash Capital,	200,000.00
Liabilities, including reinsurance,	3,617,361.34
NET SURPLUS,	1,728,766.63

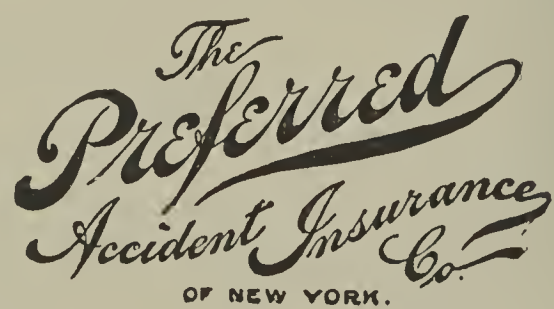
C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

The Mutual Benefit
LIFE INSURANCE CO.
NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

ASSETS (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1905,	$93,237,790.27
LIABILITIES,	85,918,227.30
SURPLUS,	7,319,562.97

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.



Accident Policies. Health Policies.

Large Benefits, Low Rates, Best Commissions.

January 1, 1904.

Assets,	$1,152,330
Surplus,	439,609

KIMBALL C. ATWOOD, Sec., 290 Broadway, NEW YORK.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1906. No. 14.

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THE bulk of the Armstrong bills on passage in the New York Legislature reveal such a number of crudities and contradictions, to say nothing of evidences of probable unconstitutionality, that they have been stopped for further amendment in the Senate. And in the Assembly the political contributions bill, after having been passed by a large majority, has been reconsidered and laid on the table, that inquiry may be made if the provision that officers must testify against themselves is not in conflict with the decision of the Supreme Court in the Lewisohn case. The hot debate of eight hours in the Senate on Thursday, in which nearly all the bills were successively attacked, led to a hurried conference by the Armstrong Committee with Counsel Hughes in the evening, and the introduction of a number of fresh amendments by Chairman Armstrong in the Senate the next day, with the prospect of further trouble when the bills come up next Monday night. The provision in the bill making it a misdemeanor for any officer or employee of a corporation to "omit any statement required by law to be contained in a report" Senator Grady characterized as the "limit," which indeed it is. It makes omniscience the qualification for a corporation official. A call for deliberation by Senator Malby was derided by the Senator from Canfield's. Can it be possible that a mass of legislation that revolutionizes the life insurance business, amended and re-amended in haste, and jammed through the Legislature, will not lead to endless litigation in the courts after the lawmaking body adjourns?

THE Governor has signed the bill to elect new boards of directors of mutual life insurance companies on November 15, with accompanying commendation of its purposes, and an admonition to the million and a half of policyholders who are now to be beset for their voting proxies, to beware of the "horde of adventurers of self guaranteed integrity" who will be after them. The Governor did not need to "name names," but the encouragement given by the new law to any speculator who desires to enrich himself from the assets of the companies will surely add to the posses which have hitherto been led by the Boston and New York adventurers. As all existing proxies are void, the labor of securing them must begin anew, and this labor will be extended over the world for additional votes. Organized effort is inevitable, as the Governor admits, and so there will be several, perhaps many, machines in operation for soliciting the policyholders. Obviously the old machine, with its army of agency retainers, will have an advantage in the struggle, which the opposition may not attain, particularly if it is divided into several factions. Campaigning will cost money, however, and success will be measured by the length of purses. A million and a half of policyholders, who have never before felt the slightest interest in the management of their companies so long as policies were paid, are to be seen, "circularized," enticed, badgered and influenced to assign their votes to canvassers or declare them for certain candidates. The pity of it is that the control of the companies is thrown into the scramble, and the precedent being established the system will endure until they are demoralized or reaction at Albany saves them. The "mutualization of stock companies" will not be promoted by the spectacle. Meanwhile companies of other States will profit in stability by the encouragement given to inconstancy in New York. We have just seen the leading mutual life insurance company of Connecticut strengthening itself against frequent variations in management by changing its plan of electing directors annually to that of dividing them into four classes, one class to be chosen each year. It is reasonable to believe that Connecticut will not follow New York in creating politics among the policyholders of her mutual life insurance companies.

IT is reported in several Washington news dispatches that the President, having realized the impossibility of securing Federal insurance of supervision by Congressional enactment, since the adverse report by the House Judiciary Committee, is preparing to send a special message to Congress recommending the adoption of the principles of the Ames bill. This bill proposes a code of insurance laws for the District of Columbia to which every insurance company doing business in the District must conform if it would continue to transact business there, and thus Federal oversight would substantially be obtained. The weakness of the plan consists in the assumption that a company would stay in the District if any of the laws were severely objectionable to it. However, if the very numerous minds all over the country now engaged in the manufacture of reform insurance legislation will agree upon a moderate, workable code for the District of Columbia, it would meet with nearly general acceptance, and would no doubt be copied in many of the States. The reformer is not always a practicable sort of person, and in these days of agitation of socialistic and paternalistic schemes for the regulation of the business, morals and manners of mankind, it is not surprising that many try their hands at the regeneration of insurance with only the crudest ideas of their subject. A recent example is furnished by a lecturer before the Buffalo Lumber Exchange on "Federal Control of Interstate Commerce," whose proposition is contained in the following paragraph:

Let the power and authority of the Bureau of Corporations in the Department of Commerce and Labor be enlarged so as to include the right

to grant charters of incorporation to all who seek to engage in interstate or foreign commerce. This Bureau should have not only this power, but all corporations, associations and individuals should be prevented from engaging in interstate or foreign commerce until chartered by it. This prohibition can be enforced by taxing all agencies engaged in interstate trade not organized by this department so heavily as to compel them to seek refuge under a Federal charter. Such a plan was put in operation during the Civil War, when the United States Government, becoming obliged to secure a market for its bonds, placed a prohibitive tax of 10 per cent. on the issue of bank notes by State banks, and thereby forced the great majority of them to accept national charters and to buy United States bonds. Unless this Bureau has the sole right to incorporate and control corporations engaged in interstate or foreign commerce, the effect of this plan would be defeated.

We notice this precious contrivance to seize the insurance companies by the throat, and choke them into national organizations only to illustrate how far afield the self-called physicians of insurance are going while this "national hysteria" prevails. Whatever plan of insurance regulation is adopted by Congress, it will respect the reserved rights of the States and their power to dictate the terms upon which insurance corporations of other States may operate within their jurisdiction.

Facts and Opinions.

The report of the committee of four appointed by the trustees of the **Mutual Life insurance company** December 6, 1905, to examine the accounts and assets of the company, pursuant to Bylaw 47, appears on the last page of the present issue of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

We have received the following communication relative to the **reported withdrawal of the Equitable Life Assurance Society from Louisiana** from Mr. C. E. Phelps, advertising manager of the Society:

A statement has been printed in several insurance papers to the effect that the Equitable Life Assurance Society has withdrawn from Louisiana. Will you be kind enough to state that this is absolutely untrue? The facts are that the Equitable's annual statement to the Louisiana Insurance Department did not reach Baton Rouge until about twelve hours after the time prescribed by law. This led to the sending out of the report that the Equitable had been barred from the State. As a matter of fact the statement was filed by the Louisiana Insurance Department as soon as it was received, and the temporary barrier, which had been created by the delay in the mails, was thereby removed. The Equitable is, of course, still doing business in Louisiana.

The remaining members of the Truesdale special committee to examine into the affairs of the **Mutual Life insurance company** rendered a fifth report on Saturday last. The committee found that its investigation thus far led it to believe that the troubles which have befallen the Mutual Life Company could all be more or less directly traced to the ambition of its management to equal or excel all others in the amount of insurance it should write and maintain, furthered by its other and possibly controlling desire to be one of the great financial powers of this country. The report said: "The real purpose of the company's organization, viz., to furnish to its members absolutely safe insurance at the lowest possible cost, seems to have given place to this ambition for power and influence in the business and financial world." The company's foreign business, the report set forth, has been conducted with the same ambition in view, and the general management of the foreign agencies was criticised, the committee saying on this subject: "As an entire proposition, your committee believes and so finds that the company's foreign business has not been remunerative to the company, nor is it ever likely to be, with the possible exception named below, and believes steps should be taken by the officials to discontinue the solicitation of new business in foreign countries, excepting, possibly, Great Britain, Holland, Belgium, Mexico and France." The committee recommended limiting new business written to $150,000,000 per annum and the abrogation of the deferred dividend system, and disapproved of campaign contributions and syndicate transactions. The committee on expenditures was severely criticised, and its immediate reorganization was urged. On this point the Truesdale committee said:

The committee as a result of its work is impressed with the lax business methods prevalent as respects the disbursements of the funds of the company in various directions without proper check or vouchers. It is amazed at the character of some of these transactions and the apparent indifference regarding these shown by those officials of the company who were also trustees, and also by other of the trustees who were in a position to know of them, and who with knowledge thereof approved or countenanced them. While your committee does not believe the chairman or any member of said committee personally benefited by these transactions, nevertheless they have placed themselves in position to be responsible for the same, or at least the chairman certainly has done so, and your committee therefore recommends that this matter be referred to the president with power to take such action, under advice of counsel, to secure an accounting and restitution of the moneys so disbursed as is found possible.

The chairman of the committee on expenditures has for several years been Robert Olyphant, and his fellow members last year were Charles E. Miller and James C. Holden, president of the National Safe Deposit Company.

A beautifully printed and embellished historical sketch of the **Continental insurance company of New York**, in tasteful binding, comes to us with the compliments of the company. It has been prepared by Mr. William Loring Andrews, celebrated as a *littérateur*, who is also a director of the company. The Continental began business in 1853 with $500,000 capital and ex-Mayor Brady as president and George T. Hope as secretary. Mr. Hope succeeded as president in 1857, and during his remarkable administration, in which occurred the Chicago and Boston fires, the assets were increased from less than $1,000,000 to over $5,000,000 and the surplus from a scant $100,000 to $1,500,000. The Continental has always been served by able presidents, and the portraits of the five, William V. Brady, George T. Hope, Hiram H. Lamport, Francis C. Moore and Henry Evans, adorn the volume. Much of the history of American fire underwriting in the past fifty years has been that also of the great Continental. The safety fund law, the standard universal schedule, and many other features of the business, now of importance in its operation, originated in the office of the company. "The company," wrote President Hope a generation ago, "is from principle a supporter of schedule rating, of wisely discriminating tariffs and of uniform charges for insurance; believing that underwriters owe it to the country, by such means, to induce property owners so to build that property shall be less liable to destruction by fire, and that thereby the immense drain upon the resources of the nation by the burning up of earned values may be diminished, and it believes also that only by such discriminating and uniform charges can the companies grow strong to meet the next great conflagration and its successors. To these ends the company has always co-operated with others for uniform tariffs, paid fire departments, better water supplies and all that tends to conservatism." The success that has accompanied these methods appears in total assets today of $12,957,841 and net surplus, with scrip and capital deducted, of $5,718,962. Mr. Andrews has compiled his sketch with rare taste and felicity of style.

Commenting on the **new law to elect new boards of directors** of mutual life insurance companies on November 15, *Notes and Comments*, edited by Mr. George D. Eldridge says:

No campaign for the control of a city, State or corporation can be carried on without a fund to meet expenses. That fund has, and always will, come

from the pockets of those who expect specially to benefit from success. It is never the general body of voters who make the campaign contributions. It never will be. The machinery which has been devised in this bill for getting rid of the men now in control of the companies is in effect machinery for getting in another set of men, through funds contributed by the Lawsons and the professional agitators, who take momentary advantage of disturbed public conditions, and who count, for permanence, on the reactionary collapse of interest which will follow this one exhibition of unreasoning power. A management placed in control by such means, in order to win popular applause, will find it necessary only to do differently than the management it succeeds, and this without regard to whether, in any particular, the old management was doing rightly or wrongly. The very matter of change will lull watchfulness to sleep, and by fostering indifference it will win security, escape watchfulness, and by substituting one machine for another, defeat reform.

Of the effects of making public the lists of policyholders of mutual life companies our contemporary very properly says:

The publication of the list of policyholders is inexcusable, and, to the smaller companies, destructive. It violates individual rights. It exposes private matters to public scrutiny. It will encourage "twisting," enhance lapses and expose men to the annoyance of solicitation, until it drives them into disgust with life insurance. It gives freely to the twister and irresponsible agent what he has tried time and again to secure through the influence of money. It gives the libeler and shyster the means of striking most effectively at the stability of the company, and of sending his blows to the spot where they will do the most harm. It will induce men who prefer to keep their private affairs private to shun New York companies and place their insurance in companies that prefer to forego the right to do business in New York rather than betray the confidence of their members. It will drive business from the mutual companies into those having a stock management.

The Canadian Government insurance investigation has led to the inquiry whether the **investments of the Sun Life** insurance company of Montreal in the bonds and stock of the Mexican Light and Power Company, a Canada corporation, are legal. The Deputy Minister of Justice, Mr. Newcomb, has advised Insurance Superintendent Fitzgerald that they are not, because under an amendment to its charter the corporation has been granted further rights than those of selling light and power. Secretary T. B. Macaulay, of the Sun Life, in a letter to the Superintendent quite demolishes the opinion of the Deputy Minister of Justice, which involves the absurdity that the extension of the powers of a corporation by law makes its securities something that an insurance company can no longer invest in. In fact the Mexican Light and Power Company has never availed itself of the amendment to its charter, and is confining itself to its original business. Mr. Macaulay has been unable to find any other lawyer in Canada agreeing with the Deputy Minister of Justice in his view, nor does he appear to have ascertained yet whether the Insurance Superintendent will require the company to dispose of the securities in question. The whole affair, which is reported at much length in the Canada papers, illustrates the quibbling nature of much of the matter brought out by these official investigations.

The district attorney of Boston, John B. Moran, has **called Lawson's bluff** and he is apparently in an exceedingly uncomfortable hole. Lawson, on March 30, expressed a wish to withdraw charges made against certain insurance men more than a week previous, but the district attorney notified him that the charges could not be withdrawn. The district attorney, furthermore, called upon Lawson to deliver the evidence, and requested him to appear for that purpose at the district attorney's office on Saturday. Lawson said his object in withdrawing the charges was that he feared the salaried agents and canvassers of the insurance companies would be the ones who would suffer, it being his opinion that it might be impossible to prosecute successfully the company heads. Mr. Moran in his reply concluded:

I appreciate the motive which prompts you to relieve if possible the insurance companies' agents from prosecution. It may be a commendable action in a private citizen, but it has no place in the district attorney's office. It being, therefore, my duty to investigate the alleged crime which you brought to my attention, I now request you to call with the evidence in your possession at my office in the Court House Saturday, March 31, at 2 o'clock.

The grand jury was instructed to hear what Lawson has to say, yesterday.

That policyholders in mutual life insurance companies would do well to execute their proxies to him as superintendent is the opinion of **Superintendent Hendricks**, of the New York Insurance Department. This suggestion is conveyed in a letter which Mr. Hendricks sent to the Truesdale committee of the Mutual Life. It is included in the exhibits attached to the report that the committee sent to the board last week. Mr. Hendricks also says he considers it very unwise that the companies should be compelled to publish their lists of policyholders. In this view he is joined by several other of the twenty-seven State insurance commissioners, whom the Truesdale committee addressed early in its work, but none of them has suggested any such plan for the policyholders' voting as appears to have been in Mr. Hendricks' mind. Varied suggestions as to the voting come from State commissioners. Commissioner Host, of Wisconsin, says in his letter to the Truesdale committee that he wants a mail ballot, while Superintendent Vandiver, of Missouri, prefers an organization of policyholders by States, so that each State, where a given number of policyholders live, shall be represented on the board.

A committee of officers of fire insurance companies, composed of Messrs. E. H. Correa, Charles L. Case, A. G. McIlwaine, H. A. Smith and George C. Howe, was in Boston on Thursday to meet representatives of the **Suburban Underwriters' Association,** and after due consideration adopted the following resolution, which has the assent of both parties in interest:

Resolved, That this committee joins in the sentiment of the committee of the Suburban Underwriters' Association respecting the desirability of the formation of a permanent suburban underwriters' association, the rules of which should, before adoption, have the concurrence of a committee of equal number of company managers, suburban association members, Boston Board members and members of the New England Insurance Exchange.

Thursday afternoon the Boston Board assented orally to the proposition, but as the necessary 20 per cent. of consent is still lacking, another meeting will be held. The territory of the association includes the Brighton, Charlestown, Dorchester, East Boston, Roxbury, South Boston and West Roxbury districts of Boston proper; also Arlington, Belmont, Brookline, Cambridge, Chelsea, Dedham, Everett, Hyde Park, Lexington, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Milton, Needham, Newton, Quincy, Revere, Somerville, Stoneham, Wakefield, Waltham, Watertown, Wellesley, Weston, Westwood, Winchester, Winthrop, Woburn.

A decision handed down at Stillwater, Minn., by Judge Williston in the case of Dr. **John F. Johnson against the Equitable Life** of New York, involving premiums paid to William Mitchell, the company's agent who disappeared after giving bogus receipts, holds that an insurance company is not required to make good premiums paid to a local agent who steals them. The court decided that Dr. Johnson did not use ordinary care in ascertaining the genuineness of the receipts, and so the company did not receive the premiums. Because of previously paid premiums, however, the court held the physician entitled to two new policies of the non-participating, paid-up kind, one for $1,000 and the other for $1,200. He must surrender his old policies to the clerk of the court within twenty days or forfeit his right to any claim upon the company. The company is to deliver to the clerk of court the new policies in twenty days more or be subject

to judgment on one policy for $750 and $624 for the other. Dr. Johnson's payments to Mitchell were large, being for the purpose of securing paid-up policies on the two he carried, one of them for $6,000.

After all **Jeff Davis, the insurance baiter,** triumphed in his senatorial primary campaign over Senator Berry by 10,000 majority. The "red necks" rallied in force at the close for their champion. A sensitive Southerner wrote as follows to the New York *Times* this week:

In your editorial columns this morning reference is made to the demagogue whom the people of Arkansas, in their supreme wisdom, have decided to be a fit representative of that State in the United States Senate, "Jefferson Davis, in whose name only lingers the old flavor of Southern traditions." As I understand the fact to be, Governor Davis' name is not Jefferson but Jeffries. You will recollect that it has usually, if not always, been printed as Jeff. I have seen the signature of the Governor to letters, on a hotel register, and attached to a mayor's commission, and in no instance did he use a more extended form of the name than "Jeff Davis." The name, as printed in the body of the official document referred to, was also Jeff Davis. There is no connection between the family of the Governor and that of the President of the Confederacy, although, of course, he has allowed a different impression to prevail. By abbreviating Jeffries to Jeff, the false implication is made that his full name is Jefferson, and this is exactly in accordance with his entire character. If the Governor were really Jefferson Davis he would certainly see to it that his name was written and printed as Jefferson, as that is a very important part of his stock in trade.

The **New York Life** insurance company sent out a statement on Saturday that its counsel in Russia had advised it that if, as required by the Armstrong Committee, it published the list of its **Russian policyholders** among others, it would violate the penal code of Russia, whereas if it complies with the Russian code, and did not publish all of the policyholders, it would be committing a misdemeanor in this State. The statement said that the company has intimation that the same situation may exist in other countries of Europe, and fears that "a grave international question" may be involved. Vice President Kingsley said:

In addition to the probable violation of the statutes of Russia, and possibly of other European countries, there are other grave reasons why the names and addresses of the insured should not be published broadcast. A man's life insurance is always a private matter, and frequently a matter which he desires to keep secret. He may have family reasons or business reasons—perfectly valid reasons, too, why he does not want the world to know that he is insured. This proposed law seriously invades private rights, and it will very likely subject the companies to a large amount of litigation, aside from the danger of the violation of penal statutes which will follow if the law is passed as it stands.

The recently organized **Midland Mutual Life insurance company** of Columbus, Ohio, expects to begin business about the first of next month. B. F. Reinmund, the company's secretary, has some ideas about agency work which promise a new departure along those lines. Instead of breaking into the agency ranks of other companies it is proposed to take graduates of the Ohio State University, the president of which, Dr. W. O. Thompson, is also president of the company. The graduate students will then be educated by the company along the lines of the companies' own policies, and an elaborate follow-up system for prospects will be put into operation. The company will operate only in Ohio, and expects by following the foregoing plans to develop a goodly amount of business in the Buckeye State. The plan of putting graduate students to work on salary soliciting life insurance follows the lead of the Equitable Life.

Life and accident companies have combined to contest **claims** for $73,000 **on the life of the late John Hartzell,** a retired farmer at Monmouth, Ill. Mr. Hartzell shot himself while hunting last fall, after having loaded up with insurance during the preceding weeks, much of it not being paid for until after the injury which resulted in his death. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of accidental death, but the insurance companies claim that he killed himself intentionally so as to realize on his insurance. Suits have been begun in the United States court in Chicago to collect $20,000 from the Penn Mutual and $5,000 from the Michigan Mutual. Hartzell also carried $6,000 of life insurance in the Travelers, $2,000 in the New England Mutual, and $2,000 in the Illinois Bankers. His accident insurance included $10,000 in the Travelers, $7,500 in the Fidelity and Casualty, and $5,000 each in the Preferred and Maryland. Suits to collect the accident insurance have been begun in the State court at Henderson County, Ill.

The forty-second anniversary of the Travelers insurance company is being celebrated. The company says in its agency paper for April:

Forty-two years ago on the 1st of April the Travelers inaugurated the business of accident insurance in this country by the issuance of its first accident policy on the life of James G. Batterson, president of the company, and a member of the electoral college that elected President Lincoln. In the list of the first thirty-two gentlemen insured it is pleasing to note that a considerable number arose to prominence in public and business life. Among them were Rev. William Croswell Doane, now Episcopal Bishop of Albany; Marshall Jewell, Postmaster General of the United States and Ambassador to Russia; Samuel Colt, inventor of the revolver, and James L. Howard, ex-Lieutenant Governor of Connecticut, etc. During the whole of 1864 11,349 policies were written, while in 1905 the number of issued policies reached the great total of 199,173. The assets of the company December 31, 1864, amounted to $372,121. On December 31, 1905, the assets had reached a total of over $48,960,079, a great record built up by faithful service, patient persistence and steadfast adherence to honorable business ideals. On these foundations every one of us is building today. Let us build worthy of the splendid foundation laid in integrity, fairness and businesslike observance of honorable ideals.

Suits against three former **Pennsylvania insurance commissioners** and J. Clayton Erb, of the Insurance Department, will shortly be begun by Attorney General Carson for the recovery of nearly $200,000 in actuary fees paid them by Robert M. Forster, of Philadelphia, actuary of the department. The commissioners to be sued are George B. Luper, James H. Lambert and Israel W. Durham. An extra bill will be drawn against Erb for the recovery of money paid to Edward J. Davis, R. M. J. Reed, Charles Gray and Israel G. Stone, a brother of the former Governor, who testified at the hearings before the Fox Investigating Commission at Harrisburg recently that he did not know what his duties were. The suits will be based on the assumption that Durham and Erb received money to which they were not entitled, and that the commissioners were acting as trustees for the State and have made no accounting to the State of the moneys which they have received.

In the criminal branch of the New York Supreme Court on Monday Justice Dowling granted the request of **District Attorney Jerome** for a special grand jury in May to hear the insurance cases. Justice Dowling said that he had conferred on the subject with the other justices and they saw no objection to the empaneling of a special grand jury. The next day Recorder Goff charged the April grand jury that it must act in the insurance cases, and that they must call upon the district attorney for his evidence, which he must not refuse to give. What action Mr. Jerome will take in view of this conflict of judicial opinion has not yet been made known. The April grand jury did not obey the Recorder's instructions this week. It probably has no particular desire to go into a prolonged and perplexing inquiry into the merits of the accusations against the insurance officials when the Supreme Court has relegated the job to another grand jury.

The present composition of the **boards of trustees** of the Mutual Life and New York Life legislated out of office on November 15 by the Armstrong law is as follows:

Mutual Life insurance company—James C. Holden, Hermann C. Von Post, Robert Olyphant, George F. Baker, Frederic Cromwell, Julien T. Davis, Charles R. Henderson, William P. Dixon, Henry H. Rogers, John W. Auchincloss, Theodore Morford, William Babcock, Augustus D. Juilliard, Charles E. Miner, George G. Haven, Adrian Iselin, Jr., George S. Bowdoin, William Rockefeller, James N. Jarvie, Charles D. Dickey, Charles Lanier, Hamilton McK. Twombly, William H. Truesdale, Dumont Clarke, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Charles A. Peabody and Emory McClintock.

New York Life insurance company—James A. Blair, Thomas A. Buckner, John Claflin, Charles S. Fairchild, Thomas P. Fowler, William B. Hornblower, W. E. Ingersoll, Darwin P. Kingsley, Woodbury Langdon, Robert J. Lowry, Clarence H. Mackay, George Austin Morrison, Henry C. Mortimer, Alexander E. Orr, Augustus G. Paine, George W. Perkins, William B. Plunkitt, Edmund D. Randolph, Norman B. Ream, Hiram R. Steele, James Stillman, Oscar S. Straus and H. Walters.

There were several **returns of well known insurance wanderers** to New York this week. Andrew C. Fields, manager of the supplies department of the Mutual Life, came back quietly to Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., on Tuesday night, but his health is still so impaired that he cannot be seen by the yellow reporters who throng about his front and back doors. Preparations were being made during the week for the homecoming of ex-Comptroller Jordan, of the Equitable Life, at his Englewood, N. J., place yesterday. Lastly, Augustus D. Juilliard, member of the finance committee of the Mutual Life, returned on the Baltic, which arrived from Europe on Thursday, bearing a message to the trustees from ex-Manager D. C. Haldeman, of Great Britain, who is himself to follow in a few days.

Concerning the movement to secure **separation and graded commissions on the Pacific Coast** the *Journal of Commerce* says:

Although all hope has been abandoned of securing separation and graded commissions on the Pacific Coast, as had been urged by some of the Chicago managers, increased commissions are being given, but without separation. Since it became evident that the changes in the constitution involved in the separation plan could not get the required majority, the Pacific Coast Board adopted a general rule allowing an increase of commissions to not over 25 per cent. on term business in such cities and towns as shall be recommended by two-thirds of the executive committee, and shall receive the approval, by secret ballot, of three-fourths of the members of the board having agencies in said city. In this San Francisco, Oakland and Portland are excepted, they being on the 20 per cent. basis. The first city taken up under this rule was Los Angeles, which has been raised from the 15 to the 25 per cent. basis.

A movement is on foot in **Kansas City,** Kan., to combine its **fire department** with that of Kansas City, Mo., across the line. The Kansas City, Kan., department always expects the other department to respond to calls for assistance when severe fires occur in the packing plants or other large industries. This has been done, but Chief Swingley has no authority for taking his men and apparatus outside of the city and State, and if any of them should be killed or injured, or if a severe fire should break out in his own city while he was helping out his Kansas neighbor, he might get himself into trouble. For that reason it is proposed that he shall submit to the city council of Kansas City, Mo., a question as to whether he is to respond to such alarms, so as to be free from any responsibility.

Losses approximating $4,000,000 is the conservative estimate of **marine** underwriters for this winter **in the North Atlantic,** where storms were unusually frequent and seas more destructive than customary. According to President A. A. Raven, of the Board of Marine Underwriters of New York, most of the losses have occurred in the last two months. While British and German companies have been hit hard, the Americans have also shouldered heavy claims. Next to lumber carriers the coal fleet has been the worst sufferer. Captains report that the coast is strewn with wreckage from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to New York, and the shipyards are full, and the underwriter foots the bills, remembering that the season on the Great Lakes, due to the fall storms, was also the most disastrous for many years.

A petition for a receiver for the **Southern Mutual Aid Association** of Birmingham, Ala., stating that the organization has been insolvent since July 27, 1903, has been filed in the Chancery Court there by Taylor Parkham. It is claimed further that large sums of money have been transferred, since the date named, to officers of the association with intent to defraud creditors. The petitioner says that he received a policy August 5, 1895, with the understanding that the amount of premiums paid during ten years would be returned on the surrender of the policy at the expiration of that time, less the amount (if any) drawn in case of sickness. When the ten years ended on August, 5, 1905, Mr. Parkham claims he could not secure a settlement. Hence his petition for a receiver.

The Sanborn Map Company is preparing **a new survey of Milwaukee,** to consist of seven or eight volumes, while the present edition covers but four volumes. The Milwaukee local board has made a vigorous protest to the Governing Committee of the Western Union, claiming that the present map answers all needs. The expense of the new issue, they point out, will be heavy, both to companies and agents, and the latter are so strongly opposed to the new publication that they have signed an agreement not to purchase the new maps or permit them to be installed in their offices. The Governing Committee has placed the matter before the companies, asking for their views as to the need of the new maps.

The **estimated loss by fire** in the United States and Canada in the **month of March** was, according to the compiler of the *Journal of Commerce*, $18,727,750. A comparison of the losses of the first three months of 1904, 1905 and 1906 is as follows:

	1904.	1905.	1906.
January	$21,790,200	$16,378,100	$17,723,800
February	90,051,000	25,591,000	18,249,350
March	11,212,150	14,751,400	18,727,750
Totals, three months	$123,053,350	$56,720,500	$54,700,900

The most important fires of March were those at Newport, R. I., passenger steamer and wharves, $1,045,000; Johnstown, Pa., hardware store and others, $550,000.

The **New England Fire insurance company** of Providence, R. I., will begin business on May 1. It has $100,000 capital and $50,000 surplus, which will be increased to $200,000 capital and $100,000 surplus. F. E. Sargent, vice president of the Jewelers National Bank of Attleboro, Mass., is president, and A. T. Parker, an Attleboro agent, is secretary. Thomas A. Duffey, now special agent of the North River insurance company, becomes general agent of the New England Fire on May 1, with an office in New York and managing the business outside of New England. His territory will embrace New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Michigan.

It has been decided, in view of some legal obstructions and with the purpose of going ahead uninterruptedly under the merger between the **Pacific Mutual Life and the Conservative Life,** to drop the proposed title of "Pacific-Conservative Life" and continue the business of the reorganized company under the old name of the Pacific Mutual Life. The officers will, of course, be those formerly in charge of the Conservative Life. The examination of the company by the California Insurance

Department, made at the request and to be at the expense of the company, will begin April 15, and will be conducted by Actuary S. H. Wolfe, of New York.

The annual report of the fire department of the **London Assurance Corporation** shows that the premium income in 1905 amounted to £561,603, and losses, inclusive of all claims to December 31, to £246,127. The balance at credit of the fire fund, after transferring £104,738 to profit and loss account, amounted to £750,000. In the marine department the net premiums received during the year totaled £255,918. The losses paid and outstanding for 1905 and former years were £161,865. The balance at credit of marine fund, after transferring £44,269 to profit and loss account, was £310,000.

A meeting of the stockholders of the new **Ohio State Life insurance company,** organized by H. P. Angell at Columbus, Ohio, will be held Tuesday next to complete organization and elect directors. The company has 242 stockholders in sixty-seven cities of Ohio, and will operate only in that State. By its charter each stockholder has but one vote, no matter what his holdings amount to. This is to guard against factional fights or individual control of the company. Only non-participating policies will be written. The company operates on the "legal reserve" basis.

The joint committee of the **New York Fire Insurance Exchange** and the New York Board of Fire Underwriters met March 30 and formally and unanimously adopted a resolution providing that the working forces of the Exchange be consolidated so far as it is practicable and consistent with the maintenance of the individual identity of each organization. The fire patrol and loss committee of the New York Board will continue under its sole jurisdiction. A proposition has been made to elect William A. Anderson secretary-treasurer of both organizations.

Of the purposes of the **Riordan bill to muzzle the press,** *Best's Insurance News*, in its issue of this month, says:

The absurd bill introduced last year by Senator Riordan designed to prevent the publication of criticism of insurance concerns has again been introduced. It is conceded that the object of this bill is to put us out of business, but it is not causing us the loss of much sleep. The "explanatory facts" are that the introducer of the bill has shown a very active interest in the Seaboard Fire Underwriters, which we thoroughly exposed, and his name appeared upon a list of the underwriters guaranteeing the policies. Our readers will recall our reports upon that extraordinary aggregation.

In reference to the proposed entry of the **Washington Fire insurance company of Seattle** into the State of New York President Carstens writes us that, while this is intended, the company is "not looking for a general surplus line business, but merely preparing to make a regular agency entrance when the call for the rest of the capital stock is made." The call will be issued this month, and as soon thereafter as practicable the Washington will enter the State with an agency plant through Lenssen & Thompson, general agents.

The Western Agency Company, the adjunct of the **Continental Life of Salt Lake City,** is still in trouble. The Western Securities Company, the third member of the Continental Life trinity, has begun suit to have the Western Agency Company put into the hands of a receiver. The majority of the stock in the Western Agency Company is owned by Hiram Tyree, the president of the Continental Life. Tyree is charged with fraud and misrepresentation in making the contract between the two companies.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the National Board of Fire Underwriters on Thursday it was voted to recommend to the board that the **Committee of Twenty** be merged with the Committee on Fire Departments and Water Supply, and that the staff of the Committee of Twenty and Inspector Johnson's department be combined, the work of the Committee of Twenty being continued at a much reduced cost, which will be provided for under the general assessment.

The New England Life insurance company is to be commended for publishing a series of papers on **practical points in life insurance.** Number Five is an able and illuminating essay by Dr. Edwin Wells Dwight, medical director of the company, on "The Significance of Albumen and Casts when Found in the Urine of Apparently Healthy Applicants for Life Insurance." It is addressed to the agents and medical examiners of the company, but is worth a very much wider circulation.

A Columbus dispatch of Thursday states that **Governor John M. Pattison** was removed that day from Columbus to a hospital at Cincinnati to be treated by specialists for what may possibly be a cancerous growth. It was learned authoritatively that the Governor has been under the influence of opiates for the past three weeks. The Ohio Legislature has finally adjourned, as it is evident that official communication with the Executive cannot be had for some time to come, if ever.

Although **E. I. Rosenfeld,** manager of the Western Life Indemnity Company, has announced his retirement from the life insurance business, he is still having his troubles, growing out of his brief Chicago experience. Bankruptcy proceedings were begun against him, and his payment of $125,000 for the contract of W. H. Gray, as manager of the Western Life, is under investigation. Action against Gray to recover the money is threatened as a fraud on Rosenfeld's creditors.

To clear up a doubt whether the issuance of marine policies insuring the owner of an **automobile** against **loss** or liability arising from the collision of his vehicle with another object was permissible under the laws of Massachusetts, the question was submitted to the Attorney General of that State several weeks ago, and on Wednesday of this week that official gave out an opinion to the effect that the issuance of such policies was not lawful in the Commonwealth.

The unrest occasioned last week by the order of the civil service commission discharging twenty-five men temporarily employed by the **Boston fire department,** on the ground that such employment was illegal, has been allayed by the appropriation committee of the city council allowing the department sufficient funds for the permanent employment of enough extra men to enable compliance with the "one day off in five" order without crippling the service.

The new president of the **Life Underwriters' Association of Chicago,** L. Brackett Bishop, will not appoint a membership committee this year, but is asking every member of the association to secure at least one new member. He is sending out a circular calling attention of agents to the benefit the association has been to them in representing their interests before the Armstrong Committee and the recent conference of insurance commissioners in Chicago.

There has been much comment over the delay of the **Underwriters' Salvage Company** of Chicago in getting ready for

business, and to allay this the organizers have issued a circular to members announcing that the capital stock has all been paid in and that an experienced man has been employed as manager. It is explained that this manager is still under contract to another concern, and his name cannot be given out until he has secured a release.

Steady progress is being made in the installation of the **improved water supply for Kansas City**, Mo. Larger mains are being installed, especially in the west bottoms and congested district, and a campaign is now on foot for the addition of three engines to the present equipment. A connection has been made with the 12-inch flow line from the Turkey Creek Station into the Armour packing plant, materially improving its protection.

The **Hartford Fire insurance company** has appointed S. E. Locke, Howard De Mott and J. E. Lowry superintendents of agencies. They will be located at the home office in Hartford and will have supervision over the company's business as follows: Mr. Locke, New England and metropolitan departments; Mr. De Mott, New York and Canada; Mr. Lowry, Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, Delaware, District of Columbia and Maryland.

The **Southeastern Fire insurance company** being organized at Suffolk, Va., has changed its name to the Virginia Fire insurance company. The capital stock is $200,000, with $75,000 already subscribed. The company proposes to do a regular fire insurance business in Virginia and North Carolina, and expects to branch out later. The officers are: Col. J. E. West, president; George W. Truitt, vice president; J. Thornton Withers, secretary.

Recent **Spectator Company publications** are the "Life Insurance Policyholders' Pocket Index" for 1906, "Pocket Register of Accident Insurance" for 1906, "Handy Chart of Casualty and Other Miscellaneous Insurance Companies" for 1906, and "Benefits Under Accident Policies." The prices of single copies of these are 25 cents. All are complete and accurate, and the first named deserves, as usual, special commendation.

Six Texas fire insurance companies are now reporting to the Insurance Department of that State, all organized within the last two years. They are the Austin Fire, Commercial of Houston, Commonwealth Fire of Dallas, Houston Fire and Marine, Seaboard Fire and Marine of Galveston and Trezevant & Cochran of Dallas. Other companies have been projected since January 1.

The **investigation of the Northwestern Mutual Life** insurance company began at Milwaukee yesterday, although the public hearings will not open until next week. Mr. Miles M. Dawson, who will be the actuary of the legislative investigating committee, has arrived at Milwaukee from Canada, where he has also been engaged by the Canadian Government investigating committee.

The **National Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents** has under consideration several plans for the strengthening of its membership and improving its finances. The trend of sentiment is toward having the membership of the local agents in the National Association, with the payment of dues to that body, and the State associations as subsidiary organizations.

The **Dutchess insurance company** of Poughkeepsie has been seeking from the Legislature an extension of its charter, and will be mortified to learn from the correspondent of the New York *Herald* at Albany that "nothing is known of the company here." The correspondent evidently regards the bill in the Legislature as another example of insurance wickedness.

The Supreme Court of Louisiana has set aside the contempt judgments ordered by Judge King against **William A. Cooke, the New Orleans insurance adjuster,** holding that the act under which they were imposed never became a law. The fines were imposed on account of Mr. Cooke's comments on a verdict against an insurance company which he represented.

The New York State Department of Education at Albany has published **Fire Tests of Some New York Building Stones,** by W. E. McCourt. The tests were made of granites and gneisses, sandstones, limestones and marbles, and very interesting photographic illustrations of results are given. The report can be obtained from the department for 15 cents.

The insurance committee of the **Nashville Board of Trade,** in addition to sending out 40,000 circulars setting forth the need for improved insurance laws, is visiting the commercial organizations of the larger cities of the State and holding conferences and public meetings, in order to stir up sentiment for the convention which is to be held in May.

Western managers are commenting on the unusual number of **heavy losses on mines and smelters** in the mountain field. Three mine losses came within ten days, followed by a bad loss in a smelter in Montana. The recent loss on the smelter at Florence, Col., makes a total of nearly $500,000 paid out on smelters there, which are regarded as "dead" ones.

The **Canadian Insurance Commission** has adjourned until after Easter. Time is thus given to the companies to prepare replies to the sixty-four questions about their affairs and management submitted to them by the commission, many of which, our esteemed Toronto contemporary, the *Bulletin*, says in the article which we reprint, cannot be answered.

A representative of the *Coast Review* asked Insurance Commissioner Wolf, of California, on his return from the **Chicago Insurance Convention,** what he thought of it. "Mr. Wolf expressed himself as somewhat disappointed. The meeting was premature and there was a general air of 'unpreparedness.' The real conference is still to be held."

The **Post Magazine Almanac,** published by T. J. W. Buckley, St. Andrews street, Holborn Circus, London, is the standard insurance directory, reference and year book of Britain, and it also covers a large part of Europe with its information. It has long been indispensable as the handbook of insurance facts abroad, and increases in value every year.

The **American Reserve Bond Company** of Chicago is having plenty of litigation just now, and its troubles have been added to by a decision of a court at Lexington, Ky., its former headquarters, holding the company liable to investors who allow coupons to lapse because of the non-payment of dues. It is said that about $500,000 is involved.

The **Accident Insurance Manual** for 1906 has been published by the Spectator Company, New York, price in flexible leather $2 per copy. It is a complete directory of the plans and contracts of the leading stock and mutual accident

insurance companies, with "hints to agents," "forms of policies" and "classification of occupations."

The big mutual fire insurance companies are operating with renewed activity **in the Pacific Northwest,** where they have been very successful. Their eagerness to get preferred business at a shade below the board rates is largely responsible for the recent reduction in preferred rates made by the Washington State Association.

The following officers were elected at the annual meeting of the **Dayton Life Underwriters' Association:** President, J. L. Kennett; vice presidents, Henry Herchelrode and V. P. Van Horne; secretary, Job Hill; treasurer, W. O. Cord. A committee was appointed to attend the Ohio legislative hearing on the insurance bill.

The Illinois Insurance Department has licensed the **National Brewers insurance company** of Chicago, which restricts its business to building properties. It begins with $100,000 capital and $50,000 surplus. Leading brewers of Chicago are the officers, with E. J. E. Graham Rhoades as secretary and manager.

The detailed annual report of the **United States Steel Corporation** shows that its **insurance fund** now amounts to $3,547,352. This is an increase from $2,708,135 last year and $1,197,675 the year before. The losses of the fund are reported to have been very light during the past year.

The letter of Mr. **John I. D. Bristol** to the chairman of the Armstrong Committee has been printed. Its scathing review of some of the original propositions of the committee for legislation has contributed materially to the elimination of a part, at least, of their impracticable features.

The **Ohio German, formerly the Anchor of Cincinnati,** has opened its new headquarters in Toledo, April 1. The directors will meet there April 5 to elect a new secretary and manager, succeeding William Wood, who retired to become manager of the Surplus Line Association.

The **Lynn, Mass.,** Board of Trade has requested the National Board of Fire Underwriters, the New England Insurance Exchange and the Lynn Board to reduce **fire insurance rates** in that city by rescinding the 25 per cent. advance made by the companies after the Baltimore fire.

The charter of the **Texas National Life of Austin** has been approved by the Attorney General and filed with the Insurance Department. The capital stock is $500,000. Captain Abner H. Cook has been engineering the new company, which will soon begin to write business.

The amalgamation of the Armenia and Conestoga Fire insurance companies is being legally arranged and the merger will take the name of the **Pennsylvania Home Fire insurance company.** The officers will be Robert Dickson, president, and R. H. Marshall, secretary.

The arguments of President Dunham and Vice President Lunger, of the **Travelers insurance company,** on behalf of the company in relation to the proposed legislation in New York, made at the Armstrong Committee hearing, have been printed by the company in pamphlet.

An impromptu **women's bucket brigade** last Wednesday held in check a fire which started in Foster's lumber yard at South Hanson, Mass., and did damage estimated at $60,000, until "male help" arrived from Whitman, Hanson and Kingston and mastered the flames.

Fire losses in Chicago during the first ten weeks of the year were the lowest in the record of the fire insurance patrol. The closing days of March, however, brought up the average, there being a series of bad fires in the downtown and manufacturing district.

The following directors of the **Washington Life** were elected Tuesday at a meeting of the stockholders: Richard Billings, S. B. Clarke, H. W. Ford, Paul Fuller, G. M. Hard, G. G. Haven and H. S. Herrman. Officers will be elected Tuesday, April 17.

A new trial has been denied to **David E. Sherrick,** former Auditor and Insurance Commissioner of Indiana, and he has been sentenced to the Michigan City penitentiary for an indeterminate term. He was convicted of embezzling $120,000 of State funds.

The lineup on the frontier when Uncle Sam is ready to "throw open" public lands will be as nothing to the lineup on September 15 when the "race" for the control of mutual life insurance companies will begin.—*Insurance Press.*

After considerable advertising a **meeting of policyholders of the Mutual Life** of New York **in Colorado** was held in Denver last week, but only eleven were present. Unless more interest can be secured the movement will be dropped.

The New York Insurance Department on Thursday authorized the **Buffalo Life insurance company** of Buffalo to begin the transaction of business in this State. It has a paid up capital stock of $100,000 and a surplus of $50,000.

Issued by the Rollins Publishing Company, of Chicago, price 25 cents, is the **Argus Insurance Chart** for 1906, exhibiting business of all the principal fire insurance companies in the United States for the past ten years.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the **Provident Savings Life** on Thursday the retiring directors were reelected, the actuary of the company, Henry Moir, being chosen to the board to fill a vacancy.

The British Fire Prevention Committee has added to its literature for circulation some cleverly written **Fables For Children,** with the view of suggesting to their minds the consequences of "playing with fire."

"Ben Franklin: His Deeds and Sayings," prettily gotten up with old fashioned type and illustrations, has been printed by the **Franklin Fire insurance company** of Philadelphia in honor of the Franklin bi-centennial.

Mandamus proceedings against Insurance Commissioner Cole, of Mississippi, will be brought by the **State Life of Indiana** to compel that official to reissue its license recently revoked for alleged rebating.

The *Insurance Press* proposes Mr. **William C. Johnson,** of New York, for the next presidency of the National Association of Life Underwriters. Proposition O. K.'d. Johnson is simply great.

The National Board of Fire Underwriters has printed the valuable report of the Committee of Twenty on **conditions**

in **Detroit**, and we are indebted to Secretary S. H. Lockett for a copy.

The annual meeting of the **Metropolitan Life** takes place April 10, and every policyholder whose contract has been in force one year or more is privileged to vote at the election.

An Eastern department, with headquarters at Poughkeepsie, has been organized by the **New Amsterdam Casualty Company** of New York.

The *Insurance World* has published its tables of **fire insurance in Pennsylvania** for thirty-three years. Price, 50 cents.

The **Michigan Field Club** has decided to disband for "lack of co-operation."

The **Empire City Fire** of New York has entered Illinois.

Personal.

Agency Appointments.

Buffalo Commercial: James S. Young & Co., sole agents for Philadelphia.

Commerce of Albany: Hinkley & Woods, Boston, Mass.

Commercial Union and Palatine: Charles M. Tobin, of San Antonio, special agent for western New York, with headquarters at Rochester.

Eagle Fire of New York: Arthur G. Nason & Co., of San Francisco, general agents for northern California.

Empire City Fire of New York: R. W. Hosmer & Co., sole agents for Cook County.

Employers' Liability: Dewick & Flanders, Boston, Mass., district managers burglary department.

Hanover Fire: E. L. Waters & Co., Providence, R. I.

Metropolitan Surety of New York: Charles A. Tait, of Los Angeles, Cal., general agent for southern California.

National of Allegheny: F. M. Watkins, special agent at New York.

Queen: Smith, Cullom & Co., Birmingham, Ala., agents.

Southern of New Orleans: Van de Bal Hager & Co., of Cleveland, sole agents there.

Union of Philadelphia: Cooper & Hall, of Nashville, agents for Tennessee.

Mr. Samuel G. Parsons, whose death was forecasted in last week's paper, was special agent for New England of the Fire Association of Philadelphia, and a native of Fredericton, N. B., where he was born in 1824. In 1846 he secured employment in a woolen house in Boston. In 1857 he entered the insurance business as junior partner in the agency firm of Kent & Parsons, which dissolved in 1864. He then took service with the Putnam, Conn., Fire insurance company as bookkeeper, rising to the position of secretary in 1868. The Putnam succumbed to losses sustained in the Chicago conflagration of 1871, and the following year Mr. Parsons was employed by the New York general agency of the Fire Assocation to establish agencies for that company in New England. After the discontinuance of the general agency in 1878, Mr. Parsons served the Traders of Chicago and the Commonwealth of Boston in the New England field, and subsequently the City of London Fire in the New York field. In 1884 he returned to the service of the Fire Association in New England, with which he remained until his death. His funeral took place Thursday morning from Berkeley Temple, Boston. He leaves a widow and a son. He was the oldest active member of the New England Insurance Exchange, and was greatly beloved for his spotless character and amiable disposition.

Mr. Henry Y. Chatterly, of Baltimore, has resigned the general agency of the Scottish Union and National for North Carolina and Virginia, to go with the Hanover Fire as its special agent for Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia and Delaware, the major portion of the territory formerly traveled by Mr. A. H. Harris recently resigned to connect with the Girard Fire of Philadelphia. To Mr. O. M. Sadler, Jr., for some years assistant to Mr. Harris, has been given charge of the independent territory of North and South Carolina, with headquarters at Charlotte, N. C.

Mr. Oliver Williams, of Denver, Col., late Western manager of the Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee, left nearly $151,000 in life insurance, besides other personal and real property of over $100,000. Mrs. M. B. Smith, cashier at the Northwestern's Denver office, will receive one-fifth of the renewal commissions, while the widow and four children each have a fourth interest in the estate, according to the terms of the will.

Miss Alice B. Angell, of Adrian, Mich., will represent the Germania Fire of New York in that place in future, having purchased the business of the agency conducted by Charles Meyer, who died March 18 after forty years' service with the company. Until 1883 Mr. Meyer represented the New York Underwriters also, but since then his services have been given to the Germania alone.

Mr. George E. Haas has been appointed assistant manager of the Western department of the Atlas of London, succeeding the late Howard Grenell. Mr. Haas has been filling the position for several months during Mr. Grenell's illness. The appointment takes effect April 1. Mr. Haas is the youngest assistant manager in Chicago, being thirty-one.

Mr. Edward Madden, of Fond du Lac, Wis., has accepted the position of special general agent for Wisconsin and northern Michigan of the Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee, having severed his connection with the Mutual Life of New York, for which he has been special agent for the past thirteen years.

Mr. C. H. Watson, secretary of the Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee, who has been in the company's service for over thirty years, was stricken with paralysis April 2 while bowling. His physicians look for a favorable outcome in spite of the fact that the patient is sixty-three years old.

Mr. I. S. Blackwelder's silver anniversary as Western manager for the Niagara Fire insurance company was appropriately observed by his friends in Chicago this week. Forty-two years of an honorable and successful career is the record of this distinguished American fire underwriter.

President Charles A. Peabody, of the Mutual Life, will continue in office if the new board of trustees chosen on November 15 desires him to serve. He has no intention of resigning before that time, as has been announced several times in reply to newspaper assertions.

Teller Joseph A. Turney, the embezzler of $34,000 of the funds of the National Bank of North America in New York, was under a $10,000 bond of the National Surety Company. The American Surety Company bonded the bank's employees until two years ago.

Mrs. Walter R. Gillette, wife of Dr. Gillette, who resigned the vice presidency of the Mutual Life insurance company last week, died at her home in the city of New York on Thursday. She was married to Dr. Gillette in 1871, and leaves four children.

Mr. Charles S. Hollingshead, former president of the Union insurance company of Philadelphia, has accepted the appointment of manager of the agency department of the Franklin Fire insurance company of Philadelphia, to succeed the late Robert H. Wass.

Mr. C. W. Watkins, a well known fire insurance agent at Grand Rapids, Mich., head of the firm of C. W. Watkins & Co., died at sea on his way to the West Indies this month. His business will be carried on by his brother and other associates.

Mr. Wm. H. Alsop, an Ozone Park, L. I., general agent of the Metropolitan Life, dropped dead in the Roosevelt Hotel, opposite the Long Island Railroad Station at Jamaica on Monday, death being due to heart failure. He was fifty-five years old.

Mr. George C. Grupe, of the F. C. Whittemore agency of St. Louis, has been elected secretary of the St. Louis Local Association of Fire Insurance Agents, as successor to F. L. Fussel, Jr., who resigned to enter the field.

Mr. Clarence A. Krouse, for eighteen years in the underwriting department of the American Fire of Philadelphia, has resigned as department secretary, and will engage in local agency work in the Quaker City.

Mr. F. A. Borneman, of the Western department of the Sun of London, has gone to Greece with the American team which is to compete in the Olympian games. Mr. Borneman is the champion diver of the West.

Mr. Frank Betcher, State agent at Louisville, Ky., for the Northwestern National of Milwaukee and the German of Peoria, died March 30 after a lingering illness from stomach trouble, aged forty-four years.

Mr. Frank C. Crittenden has resigned as manager of the advertising and supply department of the Mutual Reserve, having been appointed assistant secretary of the National Life of the U. S. A.

Messrs. Smith, Cullom & Co. have been appointed agents at Birmingham, Ala., of the Queen, which returns to that city after withdrawing some time ago on account of its unsatisfactory record.

Mr. A. A. Smith has resigned as secretary of the Continental Casualty Company of Chicago, and has been succeeded by Mr. W. H. Betts, who has been the Pacific Coast manager of the company.

Mr. J. M. Richards, State agent of the Insurance Company of North America in Nebraska, died Tuesday after a long illness. He was one of the oldest field men in the Northwest.

Mr. Charles E. Macullar, for some time manager of the fire branch of the Jordan, Lovett & Co. agency at Boston, was last Monday admitted to partnership in the firm.

Mr. John Corbet McBride has been appointed to succeed the late Mr. J. N. Lane as accident manager of the Commercial Union of London at the home office.

Mr. W. R. Townley, general agent in Chicago, will make application for membership in the Western Union for the British-American of New York.

Senator John F. Dryden, president of the Prudential, has resigned as director of the Public Service Corporation of New Jersey.

Mr. Edward N. Dangerfield, for sixteen years an Elgin, Ill., insurance agent, died suddenly March 23 at his home, aged fifty-six years.

Official Reports.

Louisiana Insurance Report.

The following are extracts from the annual report of the Insurance Department of Louisiana. Deputy Commissioner McGivney says:

There is an urgent need for the Legislature of this State to take cognizance of the disturbed and perplexed condition of life insurance business.

Public opinion has been wrought to a high state of excitement and resentment against the officials of our largest life insurance corporations by the recent exposure of bad faith and maladministration of sacred life insurance funds.

The apparent inadequacy of our existing laws to prevent the evils and abuses that have crept into the operation of life insur-

ance corporations strongly indicates an imperative necessity for additional supervisory legislation, more far-reaching and comprehensive in its scope; legislation which ordinarily, and previous to these insurance scandals, would probably have been regarded as a questionable step toward governmental paternalism.

The necessity and the demand for such legislation is reflected in the mature and deliberate finding of the New York Legislative Investigating Committee, the underlying principle of which is that the State is justified in assuming more authority over its corporate creatures. It is proposed by a system of publicity and State supervision to extend the control of the State over corporations into the minutest details of their operation and even into their internal affairs, which heretofore have been regarded as in the province of bylaws and rules, left wholly to the business integrity and honesty of the directors and officers of the corporation.

A POPULAR MOVEMENT BEGUN.

Beginning with life insurance companies, I believe that this principle, as manifested by the New York Legislative Committee, will spread to corporations of other kinds, and become a popular movement to invoke the supreme powers of the State to check the unequal and constantly increasing advantage of concentrated corporate power over individual effort.

The New York Legislative Committee has for one of its principal recommendations a law to prevent the further growth of the three big life insurance corporations of that State. It proposes to do this by limiting the amount of business that these companies can write each year, pointing to the fact that the large accumulation of assets they already possess, aggregating $1,500,000,000, if unscrupulously used, might be a menace to the financial welfare and independent commercial intercourse of our country.

Many of the insurance officials have been forced to admit that these colossal companies are becoming unwieldy and cumbersome; they fear they might totter under the tremendous responsibility and are ready to acquiesce in the restraining remedy proposed by the Legislative Committee.

I would suggest, in view of the fact that the Armstrong Legislative Investigating Committee of New York is now earnestly endeavoring to work out some reforms to bring relief from the disordered conditions of the life insurance business, and in deference to the painstaking, intelligent and thorough manner in which this committee has devoted itself for the past seven months to this work, it is proper for me to wait until they have concluded their labors, and receive the benefit of their conclusions, before making any definite recommendations on all of the subjects that are under discussion, and which will probably come up for consideration in this State..

I believe that the New York Legislature realizes that the responsibility is on its shoulders to work out some proper and efficient remedy for correcting the evils and abuses that exist in the conduct of life insurance corporations in its State. Since the principal offending corporations are organized under the laws of New York, the people of other States, naturally, look to it first to find the proper remedy and correction.

The committee have already recommended a number of reform measures that are radical departures from present laws, and drastic in nature, which, if adopted, are in my opinion sure to bring many advantages and benefits to the policyholders which could not be accomplished by legislation in this State. These measures are now being discussed before the Legislature of New York and will doubtless be urged to final adoption or rejection before the General Assembly of this State meets.

Whether or not the Legislature of New York adopts the reforms proposed by the Armstrong Committee, I deem it necessary for the Legislature of this State to enact laws requiring all life insurance companies doing business in this State and issuing policies that purport to be on the participating plan, to make an annual distribution of dividends to policyholders.

Mr. McGivney says that it is the consensus of opinion of nearly all students of present conditions, except "interested insurance officials," that most of the evils and abuses in life insurance are due to the deferred dividend system. Continuing, he says:

LEGISLATION RECOMMENDED.

I believe also that the Legislature of this State should pass a law that would require all life insurance companies to live each year within the loading of the premium for expenses and commissions.

The excessive and extravagant commissions, bonuses and other expenses, that have been paid for getting new business, is beyond the amount of the loading on the premium for that purpose. It has resulted in a system of infringement on older members' rights, and a confiscation of their funds to meet the deficit. No equity or justice can be claimed in such an unequal system. The companies should be made to return to the plan of living each year within the loading of the premium for expenses, which is tacitly the obligation of the company to its policyholder when it fixes the premium.

The premium is made up of two elements, the net premium or the mortuary feature, and the loading thereof for expenses. The law requires the residue of the net premium, after meeting the current theoretical cost of death loss, to be set aside as a reserve for future claims. There is no surplus provided in the net premium for expenses, and, except where there has been a saving on death losses, when the actual deaths have been less than they expected, any expense used to get new business beyond the loading of the premium for that purpose is necessarily taken from the funds of the existing members.

The expensive new business does not always stay, which makes the excessive cost that is now paid for it a disastrous drain on the funds of the persisting and staying members. It is not done with the existing policyholders' consent, and amounts to a willful and arbitrary confiscation of their funds. It is a violation of their equity and contract rights, and should be prohibited by law. Where the savings on expenses was formerly a source of profit to the persistent and staying members, under the present extravagant system the loading of the premium for expenses is now insufficient and actually represents a loss to them.

THE COMPENSATION OF AGENTS TOO MUCH.

To return to this system should not deprive the agent of his just compensation. It is well recognized that the aggressive agent has been the means of expanding and building up the business of life insurance to its immense proportions today. He is worthy of his hire, and should receive a full and just remuneration for his valuable services, but it should not be at the expense of the policyholders whom he has had nothing to do with in bringing into the company. Instead of paying the agent an excessive first year's commission, his compensation should be fixed on a substantial renewal basis, so that he would be fully paid for all of the business that he brings and which proves valuable to the company. He should not receive a 60 or 70 per cent. first year commission for new business, when the loading on the premium is only 33 per cent. for all expenses.

If the policy lapse at the end of the year the company has no way of recovering the commission loss it has suffered on that policy. The deficit is provided from the other policyholders' funds, for the benefit of the agent, without any obligation on his part to supply another policy for the lapsing one.

On the other hand, where an agent brings good business that remains as a part of the persistent contributing body of policyholders, the agent should continue to receive ample renewal commissions to compensate him up to the full value of his services.

Louisiana has no law regulating the business of fraternal orders, and the Deputy Commissioner urges legislation on the subject.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

House Bill No. 270, by the Insurance Committee, regarding the publishing of annual statements and fixing the fee for each publication at $6, has passed both houses.

The substitute for House Bill No. 282, by Mr. Conn, providing for the annual apportionment of dividends of life insurance companies, has passed the House.

Maryland.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., April 2.—The Maryland Legislature adjourned tonight. Only one insurance measure passed both houses and was signed by the Governor. This was House Bill No. 5, introduced by Mr. Lehmayer, which provides that "no life insurance company authorized to transact business in this State shall hereafter issue to or upon the life of any resi-

dent of this State any policy participating in the profits or surplus under which the accounting, apportionment and distribution of surplus to policyholder shall be delayed for a longer period than five years from the date at which the insurance first went into effect, or from any preceding accounting, apportionment or distribution of surplus.

"No life insurance company incorporated under the laws of Maryland, or incorporated elsewhere and doing business in said State, shall be permitted to enter into any agreement with any policyholder or applicant for insurance intended as a waiver of any of the provisions of this act, and it shall be the duty of the Insurance Commissioner to revoke the authority of any such corporation to transact business in this State for failure to comply with any of the requirements of this act."

All of the following bills died in committee:

House Bill No. 355, introduced by Mr. Melis.

House Bill No. 452, introduced by Mr. Harrison.

House Bill No. 454, introduced by Mr. Murphy.

House Bill No. 530, introduced by Mr. Cunningham.

House resolution, introduced by Mr. Melis, providing for an insurance investigating committee also died in committee. There were no revenue bills in which a tax upon insurance was imposed introduced during the entire session. During the next two years the Insurance Commissioner is to compile a revised set of insurance laws, which will be introduced at the session of 1908.

Massachusetts.

Boston, Mass., April 3.—The most important feature of the session of the Insurance Committee today was the hearing on the bill (House No. 612) for amendment of the law relative to fraternal beneficiary corporations. The purpose of the movement, as explained by Senator Parker, chairman of the committee, is to overthrow the central management of the Royal Arcanum. This is an outgrowth of the recent change in rates and the great protest by policyholders against the raise.

The one fact which is said to be emphasized by the hearing, and the condition of the fraternals generally, is that, as it is put by a member of the committee, "You can't get a good thing without paying for it," and that the fraternals will get on a right basis only as they approximate the basis of the old line companies.

Mississippi.

The House has killed the amendment to the new insurance chapter separating the office of fire marshal from that of Insurance Commissioner. The new insurance chapter was finally adopted. The fire insurance companies are now taxed one-fifth of one per cent. on gross premiums received in the State to cover the expenses of the Insurance Commissioner in investigating fires.

Changes in the code as finally adopted by the House forbid any foreign fire insurance company from doing business in Mississippi unless it has a paid up capital stock of $200,000; require all life insurance companies to deposit with the State Treasurer one-half of their capital stock, either in cash or in assets, and give the Insurance Commissioner the power and authority to compel all companies to produce before him all their books and to compel the officers of every company in the State to give testimony. These three important features do not now exist in the State.

A resolution has been offered in the House that the Legislature adjourn sine die on Saturday, April 14. The resolution will undoubtedly pass.

Ohio.

Columbus, Ohio, April 2.—The Legislature adjourned today. But two bills passed, Senate Bill No. 179, which relates to "wildcat" companies, and Senate Bill No. 181, which provides for a warden in connection with the Insurance Commissioner's office. It is probable that both bills will prove to be dead letters, as one has no provision for the warden's salary, and the other none that "overhead" business shall not be written "in the State."

New York.

Albany, N. Y., April 2.—The Governor signed today the Armstrong bill passed by the Legislature last week providing for the elections of entire new boards of trustees of mutual life insurance companies on November 15 next. The following memorandum by the Governor was attached to the signed bill:

Memorandum on Senate Bill Int. No. 454, printed No. 932, introduced by the Special Committee on Insurance, entitled "An act providing for the election of directors in mutual life insurance corporations."

Approved.

This bill provides that the terms of office of directors of mutual life insurance corporations organized under the laws of this State shall expire on November 15, 1906, and that their successors shall then be elected and that "no votes shall be cast at any such election under any proxy executed prior to September 15, 1906."

The bill is a useful one. It takes the control of certain companies from the present boards of directors, members of which have been discredited by the poor account given of their stewardship to the investigating committee. Some were careless, some selfish, and few proved so loyal to the interests of the policyholders as to justify their being continued in office, except by the exercise of the enlightened franchises of such policyholders.

On the other hand the policyholders must now act with calmness and intelligence, lest their last condition be worse than their first; lest under the new régime an anxious and hungry horde of adventurers, of self guaranteed integrity, obtain, by loud assurances of good will, the misplaced confidence of those who blindly seek refuge from existing ills. The bill provides that no proxy executed prior to September 15, 1906, shall be valid. Each policyholder affected by this act should think carefully and inquire cautiously into the motives of those who solicit his vote before giving his proxy. Organization is inevitable, but the control of the companies should pass to wise and conservative financiers and not to energetic and plausible promoters.

(Signed) Frank W. Higgins.

The following is the text of the bill as amended after introduction and finally passed:

Sec. 1. The annual election of directors of every domestic mutual life insurance corporation, whether incorporated by a special act or under a general law, which otherwise according to its charter or bylaws would be held hereafter and prior to November 15, 1906, shall be postponed and held on said date, and the directors of said corporations whose terms would otherwise earlier expire shall continue to hold office until said date and until their successors are elected; and on said date the terms of office of all the directors of every domestic mutual life insurance corporation shall expire, anything to the contrary in the charter or bylaws thereof notwithstanding. On said 15th day of November, 1906, the annual meeting of every such corporation shall be held at a time and place which shall be fixed by the board of directors and an entire new board of directors shall then be elected. The said election shall be under the supervision of the Superintendent of Insurance, who shall appoint at least three policyholders of each corporation holding such an election to act as inspectors thereof. No votes shall be cast at any such election under any proxy executed prior to the 15th day of September, 1906, and all proxies executed heretofore or prior to said date authorizing any vote to be cast at any election of

(Continued on page 266.)

Life Insurance Business in Minnesota in 1905.

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Incurred.
Ætna, Hartford	391	$538,343	3,397	$4,955,336	$184,299	$47,008
Bank's Res've, Neb.	5	12,500	33	64,500	2,467	2,500
Canada Life	67	241,380	467	1,479,352	52,927	3,287
Chicago Life	21	31,000	22	29,500	798	------
Columbian Nat	72	284,640	67	276,980	9,024	------
Connecticut Mut	108	251,530	898	1,685,807	38,186	43,410
Conservative, Cal	52	105,071	237	324,571	37,848	3,500
Des Moines, Ia	222	316,233	510	1,181,283	45,470	6,000
Equitable, Iowa	43	64,500	218	318,113	14,426	5,770
Equitable, N. Y	478	1,260,055	4,593	13,373,216	514,124	237,087
Fidelity Mutual	185	319,068	1,193	1,959,793	63,759	30,852
Germania	358	513,383	1,994	3,208,477	136,705	60,007
Hartford Life	92	204,256	544	1,235,889	48,175	25,355
Home Life	135	180,275	1,095	1,462,239	61,586	11,217
Inter-State Life	39	84,500	34	69,500	3,547	------
John Hancock	786	1,155,300	3,293	5,031,718	164,918	34,934
Manhattan	118	198,990	676	1,255,099	46,452	4,497
Massachusetts Mut.	130	229,324	1,049	2,287,373	74,101	21,915
Metropolitan	699	484,427	2,275	1,808,672	76,269	14,460
Michigan Mutual	71	120,736	527	793,359	27,205	9,143
Minnesota Mutual.	555	1,380,559	2,015	4,996,711	169,934	86,453
Mutual Benefit	758	1,532,355	5,826	12,420,536	437,060	99,041
Mutual, New York.	1,699	2,856,445	12,797	23,280,129	851,337	290,429
National, Vt	523	903,372	2,424	5,006,394	185,675	27,716
National U. S. A.	227	344,141	728	863,768	43,143	1,847
New England Mut.	395	639,298	2,352	4,599,292	138,212	51,088
New York Life	2,659	3,894,558	14,145	24,754,672	843,675	229,449
Northwestern Mut.	1,142	3,178,900	13,176	31,512,311	1,091,003	304,944
Pacific Mutual	50	76,714	405	602,820	21,136	6,218
Penn Mutual	331	698,784	2,022	4,177,829	176,975	18,922
Phoenix Mutual	84	134,804	858	1,610,680	74,353	23,504
Provident Savings	119	275,129	492	808,572	27,085	12,597
Provid't L. & T., Pa.	228	542,630	1,387	3,418,014	130,954	20,533
Prudential	1,001	1,090,801	2,881	3,487,394	133,847	10,072
Reliance, Pa.	------	------	8	11,000	453	------
Security Mutual	190	300,390	812	1,172,049	43,963	2,000
Scandia, Chicago	16	15,000	1,134	1,158,143	21,859	11,759
Security T. & L.	36	126,580	167	311,572	14,114	2,000
State Life, Ind	108	252,292	303	926,718	26,491	2,500
State Mutual, Mass.	468	1,193,490	1,962	5,485,815	185,689	58,783
Travelers	168	367,991	1,851	4,592,200	135,588	48,668
Union Central	338	522,720	1,919	3,375,349	125,345	26,938
Union Mutual	126	174,931	673	1,069,815	38,970	25,248
United States	54	91,000	296	507,440	17,200	4,500
Washington	35	58,042	937	1,406,721	45,836	14,412
Totals, 1905	15,382	$27,246,437	94,692	$184,356,721	$6,582,184	$1,940,563
" 1904	16,832	27,886,594	85,342	167,297,237	5,552,224	*1,495,617
" 1903	16,460	29,000,914	77,537	156,429,051	5,671,611	1,460,501
" 1902	17,586	30,232,381	73,330	146,975,257	5,356,649	5,356,649
" 1901	14,554	25,435,187	63,872	131,051,272	4,589,193	1,337,793
" 1900	9,745	20,859,805	53,102	114,237,798	3,727,774	1,037,663
" 1899	9,559	19,153,550	48,812	101,593,066	3,380,179	1,014,945
" 1898	8,607	18,458,010	42,870	92,810,487	2,862,328	938,107
" 1897	7,724	16,039,209	39,977	88,967,404	2,676,272	887,369
" 1896	7,201	15,733,694	37,897	87,527,546	2,515,713	668,534
" 1895	7,875	19,296,702	36,368	86,269,279	2,633,538	745,696
" 1894	8,888	22,042,457	35,078	84,934,563	2,456,742	823,930
" 1893	10,556	25,267,357	34,007	85,987,471	2,424,589	666,474
" 1892	9,909	25,649,226	32,196	82,253,172	2,489,831	706,099
" 1891	9,059	25,269,234	27,270	72,694,655	2,112,477	626,278
" 1890	7,132	20,746,485	23,644	63,315,800	1,940,457	711,141

Industrial business: The Metropolitan Life wrote 10,366 industrial policies in 1905 for $1,684,101; the Prudential wrote 16,155 industrial policies for $2,048,694.

The Northwestern National of Minneapolis, a stipulated premium company, wrote 1,279 policies for $1,267,777.

We are indebted to *Northwest Insurance* for the figures of 1905.

* Losses paid from 1890 to 1904.

Life Insurance Business in Florida in 1905.

(Compiled from a Statement by the State Treasurer.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
American Life, Tampa	$146,775	$1,722	------
Equitable, New York	1,662,710	300,310	$87,593
Fidelity Mutual	133,201	33,289	5,000
Germania	209,341	78,671	19,739
Home Life	142,876	16,297	10,377
Mutual Life, New York	2,129,775	411,091	83,020
Mutual Benefit	147,639	10,953	197
Mutual Reserve	358,000	35,671	27,000
Metropolitan	232,599	4,726	2,025
Missouri State	9,000	328	------
New York Life	2,212,141	501,225	159,620
Penn Mutual	1,619,828	160,501	64,821
Prudential	333,338	44,742	3,548
Pacific Mutual Life	7,997	453	------
Security Mutual	212,104	6,786	------
State Life, Indiana	520,820	40,030	26,000
Union Central	775,500	38,149	9,500
Washington	120,334	26,562	3,457
Totals, 1905	$10,983,982	$1,711,406	$501,897
" 1904	10,815,667	1,627,310	428,579
" 1903	8,682,640	1,355,245	413,541
" 1902	8,373,234	1,184,913	292,535
" 1901	7,439,334	1,016,213	279,883
" 1900	7,057,977	949,810	249,360
" 1899	6,482,053	739,819	432,458
" 1898	3,646,900	602,717	213,962
" 1897	3,916,004	548,951	240,859
" 1896	3,778,013	550,920	171,259
" 1895	4,125,043	535,684	147,418

Life Insurance Business in Oklahoma Territory in 1905.

(Compiled from a Statement by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Number.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$52,000	67	$2,793	------
American Mutual, Okla	444,000	------	17,155	------
American National, Texas	762,090	2,051	6,142	$134
Bankers Reserve	125,000	111	10,066	------
Chicago Life	260,000	114	8,565	------
Des Moines	101,860	45	9,330	------
Equitable, New York	275,636	566	33,051	8,728
Fidelity Mutual	233,671	307	17,202	2,000
Franklin, Illinois	196,797	375	19,643	3,043
Germania, New York	113,500	46	5,032	------
Hartford Life	7,500	93	2,908	------
Home, Brooklyn	54,200	80	7,724	------
Illinois Life, Chicago	77,525	139	8,222	2,765
Kansas City Life	169,100	185	10,978	1,121
Manhattan, New York	51,150	77	4,623	3,000
Massachusetts Mutual	149,600	260	24,248	------
Missouri State Life	242,828	322	14,700	3,000
Mutual Benefit, Newark	282,956	424	29,836	1,006
Mutual Reserve, N. Y	59,230	103	9,476	5,000
Mutual, New York	1,229,745	3,858	126,961	19,688
National U. S. A	64,036	131	7,508	3,108
National, Vermont	128,154	175	9,146	------
New York Life	1,292,410	3,406	243,925	29,999
Northwestern Mutual	380,500	1,042	58,093	17,111
Northwestern National	418,853	472	42,386	5,350
Pacific Mutual	394,314	551	24,074	4,026
Penn Mutual	468,935	383	19,766	------
Prudential	88,156	181	13,394	1,000
Provident Savings, N. Y	36,502	------	7,447	------
Reliance, Pittsburgh	18,770	15	581	------
Royal Union Mutual	147,500	64	5,142	------
Security Mut., Binghamton	117,328	180	4,043	5,000
Southwestern, Texas	83,500	75	1,242	20
State Life, Indiana	208,583	132	25,467	------
Security Trust & Life	12,713	84	1,353	------
Union Central, Cincinnati	59,950	186	8,404	1,153
Wisconsin Life	2,000	13	731	------
Totals, 1905	$8,366,590	19,983	$825,010	$116,432
" 1904	9,639,120	------	708,764	201,445
" 1903	10,020,686	------	816,679	202,200

Fire Insurance Business in Florida in 1905.

(Compiled from a Statement by the State Treasurer.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$4,885,390	$100,795	$32,269
American Fire, Philadelphia	1,009,316	21,363	8,456
American Central, St. Louis	432,887	9,873	705
Atlanta-Birmingham, Atlanta	855,738	18,635	5,848
Assurance Co. of America, New York.	1,139,931	20,894	8,597
Atlas, New York	581,253	14,435	1,846
American, Newark	225,892	5,173	1,353
Agricultural, Watertown	26,200	598	------
Boston, Boston	248,661	3,345	1,808
British America, Toronto	516,975	12,337	6,692
Citizens, St. Louis	553,895	13,929	5,570
Commercial Union, New York	2,262,823	54,501	22,083
Continental, New York	1,538,254	37,768	18,056
Caledonian, New York	717,797	16,620	1,378
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	5,776,718	55,659	12,681
Federal, Jersey City	616,186	10,800	4,233
Fire Association, Philadelphia	1,560,908	35,223	24,821
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	1,087,383	15,690	6,155
German American, New York	2,422,336	43,400	14,825
German Alliance, New York	461,355	13,404	8,078
Georgia Home, Columbus	826,762	16,695	5,292
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	1,059,099	24,194	9,175
Hartford Fire, Hartford	6,004,053	110,295	77,101
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	546,670	14,363	9,817

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Hanover Fire, New York	949,085	21,133	4,580
Home, New York	4,313,462	77,710	39,583
Indemnity Fire, New York	403,542	8,793	5,092
Insurance Co. of North America	2,291,523	61,304	43,022
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverpool	5,411,323	134,405	72,861
Liverpool & London & Globe, N. Y.	387,187	5,299	4,940
London and Lancashire Fire	1,622,223	39,479	20,291
London Assurance Corporation	376,829	8,439	5,943
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	308,402	10,402	4,770
National Union Fire, Pittsburgh	793,092	16,396	6,281
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	270,320	9,135	2,936
Niagara Fire, New York	733,906	17,233	7,669
North British and Mercantile, London	2,020,751	47,012	18,488
Northern, London	1,430,487	29,208	3,333
Norwich Union Fire, Norwich	1,517,375	38,262	28,876
Orient, Hartford	828,948	16,580	6,292
Palatine, New York	1,280,851	32,302	12,868
Phenix, Brooklyn	1,845,509	52,175	48,651
Phœnix, Hartford	786,119	16,603	6,921
Phœnix, London	591,892	15,375	4,635
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	961,717	24,166	7,838
Providence-Washington, Providence	3,396,892	45,230	27,069
Queen, New York	1,468,221	35,834	19,314
Rochester German, Rochester	395,478	10,498	2,372
Royal, Liverpool	1,390,005	34,475	10,054
Royal Exchange, London	68,919	1,434	------
Scottish Union & National, Edinburgh	647,136	16,407	5,567
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	2,429,415	21,300	3,250
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	1,849,987	20,383	6,046
Sun, New Orleans	755,538	17,680	12,025
Sun, London	899,391	22,972	15,365
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	401,783	8,987	417
Teutonia, New Orleans	664,214	17,428	7,318
Traders, Chicago	812,021	17,550	986
Union Assurance, London	107,680	2,946	------
Western, Toronto	2,406,215	24,549	7,861
Westchester Fire, New York	981,932	29,376	9,117
Williamsburgh City Fire, Brooklyn	850,103	19,225	5,641
Totals, 1905	$82,467,127	$1,697,671	$765,992
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$72,478,602	$1,487,537	$702,257
1903	59,753,890	1,276,162	646,568
1902	56,096,374	1,173,100	490,593
1901	49,468,911	944,295	4,033,636
1900	41,906,330	832,188	448,885
1899	36,404,652	710,285	312,845
1898	29,842,978	624,662	311,482
1897	29,982,731	613,447	206,614
1896	29,069,800	613,238	233,411
1895	27,229,649	588,990	304,300
1894	26,698,005	596,775	171,206
1893	28,816,034	575,489	229,214
1892	31,106,141	571,557	231,363
1891	23,989,877	472,399	613,199
1880 to 1890, inclusive	165,076,395	2,915,681	2,514,204

The percentage of losses to premiums in the twenty-six years reported in the above table is 85.2. The percentage in 1905 was 45.1.

Fire Insurance Business in Oklahoma Territory in 1905.

(Compiled from a Statement by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$51,150	$679	------
Allemannia Fire, Pittsburgh	12,300	139	------
Ætna, Hartford	1,833,380	27,747	$5,313
Austin Fire, Austin, Tex	185,266	3,038	622
Agricultural, Watertown	230,200	2,494	72
American Central, St. Louis	1,409,364	19,791	4,650
American Fire, Philadelphia	375,230	4,794	54
American, Boston	87,300	1,519	------
Anchor, Cincinnati	331,546	8,120	10,178
British America, Toronto	320,308	5,158	802
Camden Fire, Camden	197,954	2,128	4
Citizens, St. Louis	536,253	6,252	1,673
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	2,670,048	38,744	11,681
Continental, New York	5,777,335	66,243	25,822
Commercial Union, London	1,053,290	17,441	11,198
Delaware, Philadelphia	19,200	349	------
Des Moines, Des Moines	232,025	4,343	------
Farmers and Merchants, Lincoln	1,176,400	17,041	4,452
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	811,084	11,812	7,066
Fire Association, Philadelphia	1,272,746	27,733	9,520
Germania Fire, New York	702,080	9,322	1,618
German, Freeport	1,051,800	11,792	1,466
German Alliance, New York	921,673	14,050	6,542
German American, New York	3,114,947	43,717	13,307
Georgia Home, Columbus	4,800	77	------
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	99,975	1,051	------
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	318,581	5,569	393
Hanover Fire, New York	1,074,439	15,260	7,991
Hartford Fire, Hartford	2,503,411	27,757	3,025
Home, New York	8,582,493	69,453	25,056
Houston Fire and Marine, Houston	34,449	807	296
Insurance Company of N. America	1,333,224	20,889	10,125
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverpool	2,347,448	29,134	9,225
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	779,964	12,602	4,968
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	171,910	3,758	1,360
Michigan Commercial, Detroit	160,350	2,726	7
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	562,382	10,405	1,223
Michigan Millers Mutual, Lansing	133,375	3,089	------
Mississippi Home, Vicksburg	26,800	746	------
National Union, Pittsburgh	443,009	4,326	297
National Fire, Hartford	1,913,427	23,862	6,492
New Hampshire Fire	78,232	1,457	------
Niagara Fire, New York	950,334	11,918	1,981
N. British and Mercantile, London	1,786,990	17,814	3,379
Northern, London	312,512	4,804	1,280
North German Fire, New York	344,230	8,768	2,708
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	405,800	3,696	882
Norwich Union, Norwich	157,250	2,622	100
North River, New York	159,049	2,785	650
Orient, Hartford	582,202	6,740	979
Palatine, London	383,150	8,819	2,220
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	1,565,770	22,973	1,913
Phœnix, Hartford	1,044,182	12,991	6,437
Phenix, Brooklyn	3,418,191	53,696	13,594
Phœnix, London	323,488	6,459	2,874
Providence-Washington, Providence	569,107	5,249	1,257
Prussian National, Stettin	397,790	4,195	1,575
Queen, New York	939,835	12,172	5,803
Royal, Liverpool	1,146,415	11,058	650
Royal Exchange, London	180,174	4,040	102
Rochester German, Rochester	22,099	3,528	817
Security, Baltimore	32,700	345	494
Security, New Haven	81,050	1,055	------
Scottish Union and National	1,073,424	22,260	7,126
Shawnee, Topeka	3,177,908	50,251	11,781
St. Paul Fire and Marine	6,341,754	87,278	30,812
Springfield Fire and Marine	3,716,859	42,509	11,533
Sun, New Orleans	28,650	347	------
Sun, London	351,477	6,350	816
Travelers Fire, Pine Bluff, Ark	5,925	159	------
Traders, Chicago	488,696	6,203	1,927
Western, Toronto	598,830	6,932	3,210
Williamsburgh City, New York	229,726	3,487	4
Westchester Fire, New York	545,500	5,464	809
Totals, 1905	$81,352,220	$1,011,194	$304,210
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$65,309,214	$927,446	$449,886
1903	58,497,330	849,134	402,976
1902	45,248,703	715,978	280,247
1901	35,705,205	566,616	182,941
1900	21,855,864	351,883	94,244
1899	15,568,981	257,545	49,934
1898	9,098,968	160,264	18,559
1897	5,674,198	107,933	29,732
1896	3,507,494	76,672	40,013
1895	4,264,445	107,508	46,599
1894	4,205,102	108,245	28,772
1893	3,630,956	92,624	23,230
1892	1,782,906	50,682	14,228
1891	715,768	24,081	3,126

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the fifteen years embraced in the above table is 36.5. The percentage in 1905 was 30.0.

Fire Insurance Business in North Dakota in 1905.

(Compiled from a Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$2,043,721	$42,645	$11,107
British America	561,294	11,076	4,439
British American, New York	29,888	586	111
Citizens, St. Louis	788,860	16,270	1,372
Commercial Union, London	1,849,705	40,340	11,024
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	1,711,972	32,425	9,982
Continental, New York	1,487,354	31,704	8,459
Fire Association of Philadelphia	1,339,323	30,723	2,188
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	1,800,604	35,464	9,472
German Alliance, New York	543,134	11,618	3,506
German American, New York	2,005,253	44,839	17,695
German, Freeport	340,253	5,440	------
Germania, New York	500,825	9,697	1,391
Hanover, New York	1,083,853	23,432	12,691
Hartford, Hartford	5,285,679	108,997	50,228
Home, New York	4,931,480	81,336	29,578
Ins. Co. of North America	1,682,798	35,037	9,891
Liverpool & London & Globe, N. Y.	120,163	2,188	34
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverpool	2,792,460	52,750	36,601
Moscow Fire	162,533	2,859	3,917
National Fire, Hartford	1,254,970	17,986	687
National Union, Pittsburgh	29,800	544	------
Niagara, New York	523,908	9,990	2,926
North British & Mercantile, London	773,252	13,628	4,877
Northern, London	545,848	10,875	556
Northwestern F. and M., Minneapolis	4,005,969	75,451	20,285
Norwich Union, Norwich	925,384	19,516	6,439
Palatine, London	677,340	15,927	5,388
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	1,284,818	25,172	11,185

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Phenix, Brooklyn	1,922,366	43,330	22,542
Phœnix, London	420,541	8,196	3,072
Phœnix, Hartford	1,668,519	31,313	10,068
Providence-Washington, Providence	972,395	14,041	609
Queen City Fire, Sioux City	673,147	13,252	1,730
Queen, New York	1,344,720	28,874	7,136
Royal, London	813,128	15,440	2,126
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	2,766,553	50,546	20,556
St. Paul F. and M., St. Paul	10,000,378	154,158	59,635
Sun, London	215,950	3,909	133
Traders, Chicago	492,241	8,853	1,019
Western, Toronto	689,747	12,122	5,014
Totals, 1905	$63,439,748	$1,192,550	$409,670
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$45,186,733	$917,316	$419,381
1903	48,561,939	1,122,166	604,948
1902	44,280,012	1,100,492	672,448
1901	42,901,293	701,096	519,103
1900	40,200,576	736,368	495,663
1899	35,846,363	759,493	571,683
1898	26,569,911	543,829	491,286
1897	24,840,518	491,331	333,270
1896	20,025,730	449,460	138,945
1895	20,373,943	439,311	219,920
1894	17,564,712	390,578	265,560
1893	22,622,666	442,330	1,409,917
1892	23,139,886	439;799	191,762
1891	19,585,850	370,350	140,618
1890	18,647,165	341,053	163,112

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the sixteen years embraced in the above table is 67.4. The percentage in 1905 was 34.3.

Fire Insurance Business in Colorado in 1905.

(From a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$1,115,249	$19,664	$17,625
Ætna, Hartford	2,569,002	42,240	23,152
Agricultural, Watertown	896,951	12,594	4,764
Allemannia Fire, Pittsburgh	481,465	5,671	1,273
Alliance, London	1,813,510	28,996	20,164
American, Boston	368,437	4,487	1,300
American, Newark	2,086,726	29,102	10,312
American Central, St. Louis	1,205,617	18,895	8,028
American Fire, Philadelphia	672,703	11,435	3,340
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	213,335	3,168	4,136
Assurance Co. of America, N. Y.	331,456	5,093	3,334
Atlas, London	2,210,312	37,569	19,842
Austin Fire, Austin	379,631	5,623	1,713
Boston, Boston	96,690	2,504	1,293
British America, Toronto	1,775,800	34,406	11,116
British American, New York	548,231	8,753	3,829
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	208,400	3,294	1,128
Buffalo German, Buffalo	370,515	6,436	4,530
Caledonian, Edinburgh	2,165,864	30,932	13,125
Centennial State, Denver	583,737	5,780	1,726
Citizens, St. Louis	502,525	8,943	6,563
City of New York, New York	57,675	660	------
Colorado Merch. and Farmers Mutual	221,182	2,824	212
Commercial National, Denver	359,900	4,626	762
Commercial Union, London	2,471,474	41,288	15,109
Commercial Union, New York	527,236	8,564	1,690
Concordia Fire, Philadelphia	590,334	6,898	4,742
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	1,340,890	23,792	9,804
Continental, New York	5,246,722	73,040	23,545
Delaware, Philadelphia	1,056,945	12,149	9,887
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	158,145	2,497	455
Eagle Fire, New York	415,564	6,952	30
Equitable F. and M., Providence	958,732	10,230	10,500
Federal, Jersey City	275,293	3,785	892
Fire Association of Philadelphia	2,722,276	50,835	33,036
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	6,106,840	101,327	47,618
Firemen's, Newark	1,034,450	12,519	5,709
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	703,047	9,216	2,421
German Alliance, New York	1,299,249	20,776	10,085
German American, New York	4,020,178	57,442	27,723
German Fire, Peoria	630,034	8,625	2,960
German Fire, Philadelphia	969,955	10,569	2,659
German, Freeport	1,622,979	26,722	10,075
German National, Chicago	694,506	12,286	3,599
Germania Fire, New York	1,681,285	23,052	8,411
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	813,617	8,531	1,639
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	762,285	8,998	4,927
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	1,296,804	17,656	13,768
Grange Mutual Fire, Colorado	189,937	1,245	1,788
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	324,058	5,289	2,308
Hanover Fire, New York	1,311,130	20,592	8,031
Hartford Fire, Hartford	7,290,731	103,868	49,404
Home Fire & Marine, San Francisco	3,775,570	65,483	38,351
Home, New York	6,547,266	87,258	55,204
Indemnity Fire, New York	353,460	6,153	2,473
Insurance Company of N. America	3,346,170	57,706	18,182
Law Union and Crown, London	657,703	11,781	9,488
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverp'l	6,886,730	87,065	33,486
Liverpool & London & Globe, N. Y.	79,513	1,341	419
London Assurance Corporation	1,652,870	27,477	16,607
London and Lancashire Fire	1,592,943	27,030	25,376
Loyal Mutual Fire, Colorado	788,060	13,946	5,760
Lumbermen's, Philadelphia	642,435	7,109	3,974
Mechanics, Philadelphia	772,356	8,757	4,817
Mercantile F. and M., Boston	189,615	2,878	1,944
Merchants and Farmers Mut., Denver	234,562	1,504	242
Merchants Mutual Fire, Denver	1,896,498	25,859	10,477
Michigan Fire and Marine, Detroit	44,375	937	1,850
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	219,581	3,444	2,312
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	917,850	13,864	3,891
Moscow Fire, Moscow	528,393	8,700	6,078
National Fire, Hartford	4,495,543	78,544	45,158
National Mutual Fire, Denver	3,487,762	33,879	11,050
National Union Fire, Pittsburgh	1,201,920	17,597	2,383
New Brunswick Fire, New Brunswick	48,050	656	1,023
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	1,008,788	15,347	7,804
New York Fire, New York	307,219	4,877	3,763
New Zealand, Auckland	1,326,029	21,637	11,713
Niagara Fire, New York	1,656,977	29,784	15,917
N. British and Mercantile, London	2,839,284	44,000	20,028
Northern, London	1,635,945	30,187	18,698
Northwestern Mutual Fire, Denver	818,621	5,627	1,727
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	2,459,656	28,147	6,004
Norwich Union Fire, Norwich	1,684,549	28,611	13,926
North River, New York	446,691	6,130	3,955
Orient, Hartford	876,353	14,393	14,670
Palatine, London	1,686,112	26,292	20,960
Pelican, New York	140,300	2,102	397
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia	2,029,634	30,117	7,542
Phenix, Brooklyn	3,048,632	63,166	28,333
Phœnix, London	770,735	12,009	8,355
Phœnix, Hartford	1,724,882	30,206	18,553
Providence-Washington, Providence	2,003,986	25,769	12,255
Prussian National, Stettin	1,498,183	20,874	8,999
Queen City Fire, Sioux City	73,700	1,071	------
Queen, New York	1,317,624	23,219	14,753
Reliance, Philadelphia	1,256,500	14,429	4,752
Rochester German, Rochester	1,370,219	19,419	8,573
Royal Exchange, London	1,576,221	23,042	19,997
Royal, London	2,446,729	39,743	10,897
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	1,723,460	29,839	23,526
Security Fire, Baltimore	159,420	1,623	189
Security, New Haven	642,225	10,677	6,231
Skandia, Stockholm	291,387	4,478	1,807
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	4,350,140	58,579	37,108
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	1,111,034	14,971	11,456
Star Fire, Louisville	8,300	271	5
State Fire, London	357,098	6,169	3,604
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	1,701,426	25,882	7,895
Sun, London	1,917,748	25,403	14,353
Svea, Gothenburg	1,349,951	22,751	12,616
Teutonia, New Orleans	588,552	9,739	4,723
Traders, Chicago	1,495,562	22,143	11,621
Transatlantic Fire, Hamburg	1,158,800	19,517	13,440
Union, London	1,413,552	26,127	14,455
Union, Philadelphia	320,574	4,062	800
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	831,054	11,596	4,765
United States Fire, New York	453,852	4,591	2,103
Western, Toronto	3,117,489	40,510	19,541
Westchester Fire, New York	798,200	12,141	10,659
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	868,285	11,755	2,908
Totals, 1905	$168,770,512	$2,534,421	$1,263,005
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$161,181,188	$2,401,793	$919,867
1903	158,299,136	2,355,574	1,193,573
1902	147,557,161	2,229,473	1,092,368
1901	177,607,480	2,615,625	875,365
1900	131,818,456	1,966,329	743,331
1899	125,396,181	1,732,459	1,081,997
1898	101,820,867	1,554,136	551,963
1897	98,395,005	1,525,756	376,799
1896	95,711,246	1,557,627	1,155,580
1895	92,299,396	1,485,570	519,548
1894	85,520,077	1,428,619	794,651
1893	95,211,931	1,555,363	928,500
1892	101,654,117	1,723,563	827,062
1891	94,429,757	1,569,749	572,263
1880 to 1890	526,741,537	9,467,748	3,732,625

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 44.5. The percentage in 1905 was 49.8.

(Continued from page 263.)

directors of any domestic mutual life insurance corporation shall be void.

Sec. 2. The new boards of directors elected as hereinbefore provided shall forthwith elect new officers of said corporations respectively, and the terms of office of any and all officers of said corporations then in office shall expire upon the election and qualification of their successors, anything in the charter, bylaws or in the terms of the appointment or election of such officers to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 3. The said new boards of directors shall divide themselves by lot into two classes as nearly equal as may be, one class to hold office until the annual meeting of the company

to be held in accordance with its charter or bylaws in the year 1908, and the other class to hold office until the annual meeting to be so held in the year 1909. There shall be no election of directors at the annual meeting in 1907. At the annual meeting in 1908 and at each annual meeting thereafter directors shall be elected for a term of two years in the place of those whose terms of office then expire.

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 3.—Senator Brackett introduced Senate Bill 818, amending Section 4 of Chapter 24, to strike out this exemption, "the personal property in excess of $100,000 of mutual life insurance corporations incorporated in this State before April 10, 1849"; also, "accumulations in any domestic life insurance corporation held for the exclusive benefit of the insured other than real estate and stock liable for taxation."

ALBANY, N. Y., April 4.—In the Assembly today five of the Armstrong bills were passed. They were as follows:

Assembly No. 1,874.—Amending the legislative law so as to require all "legislative agents," whether for persons, firms, associations or corporations, employed for compensation to promote or oppose legislation before the Legislature, or Governor, to register with the Secretary of State before entering upon service; to require also the registry in the same office of all fees paid to such agents; also to prohibit the employment of such agents for compensation contingent, in whole or in part, upon the passage or defeat of any legislative measure or measures.

Assembly No. 966.—Amending the penal code as to the crime of perjury, so that contradictory statements under oath shall be presumptive evidence of perjury.

Assembly No. 969.—Amending the general corporation law relative to the acquisition of real property by life insurance corporations.

Assembly No. 968.—Amending the penal code so as to prohibit rebating by agents.

Assembly No. 967.—Amending the penal code so as to penalize more effectively than at present the falsification or omission of material entries in the books and records of any corporation by any employee or officer thereof.

When the bill, Assembly No. 1,875, to prohibit campaign contributions by insurance corporations, came up for action Mr. Rogers, chairman of the Insurance Committee, requested that it be laid over until tomorrow.

The bill making contradictory statements under oath presumptive evidence of perjury received nine negative votes after a warm debate..

Messrs. Nolan, of Rensselaer, and Eagleton, of New York, voted against the anti-rebate bill.

The other three bills which were passed encountered no opposition.

In the Senate Senator Smith's bill to regulate and tax mutual fire insurance companies of other States was passed by a vote of 20 to 19. It was strongly opposed by Senator Armstrong on the ground that it was in the interest of the stock companies and discriminated against the New England mill mutuals trying to do business at lower rates in the State. The bill provides that a one per cent. tax on gross premiums and assessments of mutual fire insurance companies shall be collected and paid to the several volunteer firemen's associations in the State for their maintenance and support.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 5.—In the Senate action was taken on the advancement of seven of the Armstrong bills to a third reading. They will not be put on their final passage until next week.

The political contributions bill was attacked by several Senators. It was finally allowed to pass to third reading without opposition.

The contradictory statements bill was the cause of a long and excited debate, but finally all the bills were advanced to third reading.

The Assembly passed the political contributions bill, which had been laid over from yesterday, by a vote of 119 to 6. Then, on a sudden motion by Assemblyman Schoeneck, the vote was reconsidered and laid on the table. It was understood that a legal snag had been discovered and further consideration was needed as to whether the bill conflicts with the Supreme Court decision in the Lewisohn case.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 6.—As a result of a conference between the insurance committees and Counsel Hughes last night Senator Armstrong introduced in the Senate today a number of amendments to the Armstrong bills on third reading in the Senate. These amendments are being put in form for printing and will appear in the revised bills when called up next Monday night. Of course some will have to go back to the Assembly for repassage.

The Senate Insurance Committee introduced today Senate Bill No. 878, amending the stock corporations law relative to qualifications of directors by providing that policyholders shall be eligible to election, whether or not they are stockholders.

Senator Smith has introduced a bill, No. 836, whereby the corporate existence of the Dutchess insurance company is extended for one year.

The Senate has passed Senator Fitzgerald's bill relating to title guaranty companies.

New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., April 2.—Mr. Martin tonight introduced House Bill No. 489, which provides that all life insurance companies shall be taxed upon the full amount of their property, exclusive of real estate, after debts and other liabilities are deducted. Capital stock not regarded as a liability, and shall not be deducted.

Mr. McKee has introduced Senate Bill No. 326, amending an act to amend an act passed in 1902, providing for the regulation and incorporation of insurance companies.

Miscellany.

The Canada Investigation—The Daily Papers Howling With Delight and the Business at a Standstill.

(The Bulletin, Toronto, April 2.)

As predicted, the yellow press of Canada, and other newspapers from which better might be expected, have been trying to make as much of a sensation as possible of the evidence given before the Commission at Ottawa. Almost everything done by the companies, no matter how ordinary or necessary, has been featured as though it were something extraordinary or scandalous. The fact that a company has "written up" or "written down" or "written off" securities has been scareheaded as if it were the extreme of iniquity, whereas every financial and commercial institution is doing the same thing all the time.

While not attempting to condone or palliate the irregularities which have been brought out, we do protest against such wholesale and indiscriminate detraction by the press as has been going on under the pretence of looking after the public interest. The public have the right to expect from the newspapers at least intelligent treatment of matters of such importance, but in this case they are being disappointed. However, the innate common sense of the people will prevent their being stampeded into lapsing their policies or losing confidence in the protection of life insurance which is being so well and so securely furnished by our Canadian companies.

The ability of every company to pay its every policy liability is beyond peradventure.

A circular has been sent to each company by the Commission containing a series of sixty-four questions to be answered at the earliest possible moment. The information asked for is to cover year by year the last fifteen years' operations of the company, or its entire existence if it has not been doing business for that length of time. While some of the questions are not inappropriate, there are others which can serve no useful purpose, and which it is in fact impossible to answer. Under the heading "Expenses of Obtaining and Retaining Insurance" the following questions appear:

(1) Show fully the gross amount of premiums paid by or credited or charged to policyholders, including all commissions and rebates, distinguishing between the different classes of insurance, and also distinguishing between such gross premiums in respect of policies heretofore in force, and such gross premiums in respect of new policies written during the year.

(2) Statement showing fully the respective amounts paid out or allowed by way of commissions, rebates or otherwise, for the securing and retention of insurance, distinguishing in each year between policies theretofore in force and policies written during the year, and always maintaining the distinction between the different classes of insurance.

When it is remembered that the answers are to cover the last fifteen years' operations some idea of the work involved may be gathered. The extra labor and expense will be of no small dimensions, and will mean an added burden to the policyholders.

What the outcome of the investigation will be it is, of course, impossible to say at this time. It is unquestionable, however, that the duties of the Superintendent of Insurance will be more clearly defined in future, as also the investment powers of the companies. There has been so much indefiniteness on these points already made plain that action is imperative.

In the meantime the business is being seriously hampered and the agents are finding it difficult to write business while all this stir is on. To these hardworking gentlemen of the rate book, whose path is no bed of roses at the best, it means a material deprivation of income.

In the interest of everybody concerned the Commission should expedite its work so that the present disturbed state of affairs shall not be unnecessarily protracted.

Vice President Tarbell Urges Equitable Agents to Canvass for Deferred Dividend Policies Until January.

In his April address to the agency force of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, Second Vice President Gage E. Tarbell makes the following plea for active work in the deferred dividend business, before it becomes illegal, as to New York companies, on January 1, 1907, as provided by the Armstrong bill now on its passage in the Legislature:

I like the attitude taken by many of our representatives, and strikingly exemplified by one of our successful metropolitan agents who came into my office a few days after the Armstrong report was made public, when it seemed to be the one absorbing topic of conversation. "How do you do, Mr. Blank?" said someone already in the office; "What do you think of the Armstrong report?" "I don't know," replied the newcomer, "I am so busy writing applications that I haven't had time to consider the report at all. I just came in to tell Mr. Tarbell that one of my associates and myself, working together, closed a nice application this morning; that we secured four last week, and that we have several more in sight for this week." And then he added, "And if the Armstrong report is enacted into law by the Legislature we intend to turn in and write half a million dollars of deferred dividend assurance before the first of next January, because we know that there are thousands of men in New York who prefer that kind of assurance to any other." And it seemed to me that he was a very sensible man and that he could not have made a better resolution.

Without entering into a discussion at this time as to the merits of the deferred dividend system, you know that there are hundreds of thousands of people, including many assurance experts, who believe that that system is better for the policyholder than any other; and as we believe in giving every man the kind of assurance he wants, we think it entirely proper for you to give to all who believe in the deferred dividend plan above everything else an opportunity to increase their holdings at this time.

Nearly everywhere you can find some man or men who have matured policies and who freely admit that they would probably not have had a cent of the money returned to them if they had not invested it in such a policy.

We are not a thrifty people either by nature or general practice. The American likes to spend money and spend it freely. Try to deny it as we may, the fact nevertheless remains that the majority of us have to be forced to save money. We do not do it willingly. One of the hardest things a life assurance agent has to do is to persuade us that we can set aside—or save—a definite sum of money each year. He can more easily persuade us that we need the protection of life assurance than that we can spare the money necessary to buy it. Under the forcible arguments of the agent we suddenly decide that we will make the "sacrifice" (why we call it a sacrifice would be hard to explain) and we bravely make the outlay for the first year. Now what makes us put in—save—a similar amount the next year? The fact that we do not wish to lose the money already invested—although now we have come to realize somewhat the value of the protection, and to feel more like capitalists. But that first saving has undoubtedly compelled the next—and thus as the years go on we are taught the great value—yes the necessity of saving, as well as the joy and the satisfaction of it.

Having acquired the habit of saving a certain amount of money each year, why draw out all it earns and get rid of it? Isn't that encouraging the very passion in us that does not need to be encouraged? Isn't that nullifying one of the very greatest advantages that accrue to a man in carrying a life assurance policy—that habit of thrift that is engendered in him? You may theorize all you want but it is practice that counts; and I can show you many a practical result from the proceeds of a matured deferred dividend policy as against the memory of many annual dividends drawn and frittered away.

Of course you cannot have your cake and eat it too, but what the generality of people need is to save something for a rainy day. They may tell you that there are better ways to save it than in life assurance. That is not the point unless they save it; but such an excuse to a life assurance agent is usually made because they want to spend the money—not invest it.

Admit that the results on deferred dividend assurance have not been as large as was expected (I say nothing of the fact that this is equally true of annual dividend assurance; admit the worst that can be said in that line, and yet the results have been good. Is it not a fact that the comment most frequently heard when a policy matures is "I only wish I had taken out two or three times the amount, as I would have been just that much ahead and never would have missed the money"?

President Peabody's Letter to Manager Haldeman—No Connection With the Standard Oil Company.

As Mr. D. C. Haldeman, former manager for the Mutual Life for the United Kingdom, is represented as claiming that he could not get replies to his letters to President Peabody, the following is a copy of the reply of the latter to the only letter he received from Mr. Haldeman. It will be seen that Mr. Peabody again specifically denies that he has any connection of any kind with the Standard Oil Company or its representatives:

JANUARY 16, 1906.

DEAR SIR—Your letter of January 1 reached me on the 13th, and has been read and considered by me with great interest. I have also carefully read your letter of December 23, addressed to the superintendent of foreign agencies, a copy of which was enclosed (and which I had already heard at its reading before the agency committee) and also newspaper clippings forwarded by you.

I appreciate fully the difficulties under which the interests of the company are now laboring, and which to a great extent are common to all the agencies, foreign and domestic, but which press more heavily on you than on some of the others. I am convinced, however, that the company has entered upon a course which, persisted in consistently, will ultimately triumph over the unfortunate circumstances which have shaken public confidence, and will restore to us the good will of our policyholders and others, who very naturally have criticised severely the methods employed by the company.

Those portions of your letter relating to the company's business are referred to Vice President McClintock, who has been placed by the committee on agencies in general charge of all the agencies, and have been and will be the subject of serious consideration by him and the committee.

To those parts which relate to the policy to be pursued by the company's chief executive, and which therefore relate more

personally to myself, I beg leave to say that the statements of the newspapers that my appointment as president has any connection with any "Rockefeller-Morgan combination" are entirely without foundation. I have not now, and never have had, any connection of any kind with these gentlemen. Indeed, I have not their acquaintance, and have no reason to suppose and have never heard it suggested, except by sensational newspapers, that they had any connection with, or attempted to exert any influence, directly or indirectly, on the subject of my election. In saying this I intend to be understood as saying all that is to be implied by these words. I want to be understood as saying that all suggestions that I am the instrument of, or was proposed by, or am in any way under the influence of the gentlemen identified with the Standard Oil Company have no basis whatever except in the efforts of sensational journalism. Substantially the same may be said of Mr. Harriman. Mr. Harriman has not now and never has had any connection with this company. I have never heard it suggested that he wished to have, or that he, or anyone else, expects him to have any influence, direct or indirect, over its affairs. I do not believe that he has ever thought of having any such influence, or has any desire in that connection.

Please do not understand me as in any way, by implication or otherwise, intending or desiring to cast any reflections upon any of these gentlemen. I am simply stating facts in answer to the suggestions of your letter, which in my opinion are as unjust to them as they are to me.

To sum up in a few words, let me add that I came to the service of the company without pledges, bonds or obligations of any kind which could make me subject to the influence of anyone as controlling my official action. The purpose of the trustees in electing me, and my purpose in accepting the election, are to reorganize the business of the company upon the most efficient methods. The most rigid economy in the expenditure of the company's funds, the most prudent and conservative investment of the company's resources, and the utmost vigilance and activity in the promotion of the company's business and the guarding of its interests are the only things that have been asked of me by those who proposed and supported my election. For any action of mine, as president, I alone am responsible. No one will attempt to control me, nor would I be influenced by anyone against what I conceive to be the best interest of the company and its policyholders. Much has already been done, much more will follow. We are now studying plans for the improvement of the company's service, which we hope to perfect during the coming spring, and I ask only such reasonable patience and indulgence as the importance of the work justifies.

Let me at the close of this letter express a hope that we may before long meet personally and consider together the interests and advancement of the company.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) CHARLES A. PEABODY, President.

The Union Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

CAPITAL, - - $200,000.

STATEMENT, APRIL 1, 1904.

Bonds, Bank and Other Stocks, Market Value	$290,326.50
Demand Loans with Collateral Security	34,500.00
Real Estate, unincumbered, owned by the Company	106,500.00
Premiums in course of collection, Interest due Company and Cash in Banks and Office	222,561.32
Total Assets	$653,887.82

LIABILITIES.

Reserve for Reinsurance and other Liabilities	$280,736.85
Reserve for Losses under Adjustment and not yet due	94,533.01
Surplus to Policyholders	278,617.96
	$653,887.82

Losses paid since organization, $18,616,821.42.

CHAS. S. HOLLINSHEAD, President.

E. R. DANNELS, Secretary. M. JOS. NOWLAN, Assistant Secretary.

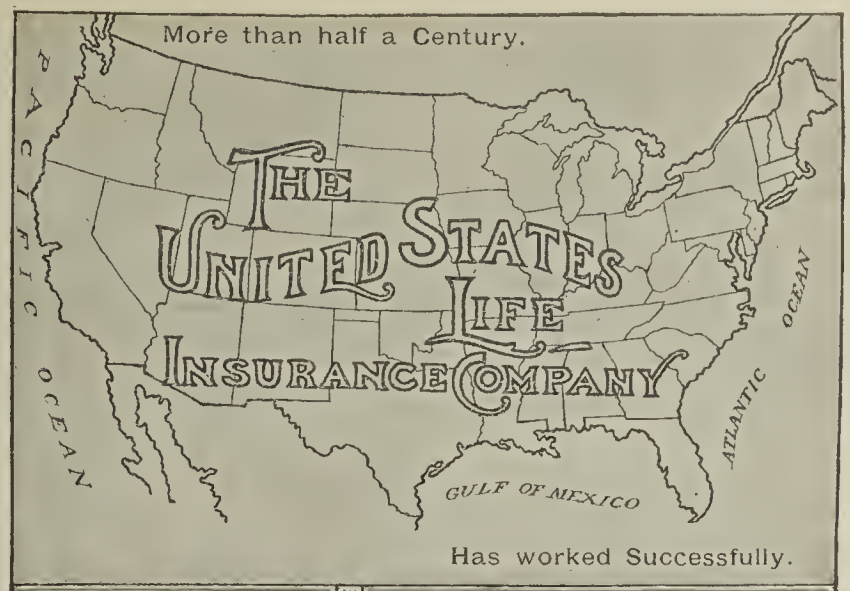
THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencies

WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.



JOHN P. MUNN, M.D.
President

FINANCE COMMITTTEE

JAMES R. PLUM
Leather

CLARENCE H. KELSEY
Pres. Title Guar. and Trust Co.

WILLIAM H. PORTER
Pres. Chemical Nat'l Bank

Good men, whether experienced in life insurance or not, may make

DIRECT CONTRACTS

with this Company, for a limited territory if desired, and secure for themselves, in addition to first year's commission, a renewal interest insuring an income for the future. Address the Company at its HOME OFFICE, No. 277 Broadway, New York City.

How's Your Backbone? Can You Stand Alone?

Agents who can answer "strong" and "yes" to the above questions, and who want to be advanced more than they want advances, can secure splendid contracts with liberal renewal commission guarantees from the

Security Trust and Life Insurance Co.

BROADWAY and 26th STREET, NEW YORK.

Mr. Thomas Bradley, President

Mr. Geo. B. Luper, 2d Vice-President and General Manager

THE

MUTUAL

Life Insurance Company of Boston, Mass.

Insurance in Force, December 31, 1904, - - - Over $356,000,000

ROLAND O. LAMB, Vice-Pres.; ARNOLD A. RAND, 2d Vice-Pres.; ROBERT K. EATON, Sup't of Agencies; WALTON L. CROCKER, Secretary; WM. S. SMITH, Actuary; GEORGE L. STIMMEL, General Agent Metropolitan District.

St. Paul Building, New York.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.

Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.

A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.

A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE
Insurance Company.
1846–1906.

Transactions since Organization
A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906 ..... $13,024.882.85

LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,398,152.28	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilites	3,626,730.57	$13,024,882.85

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO., INCORPORATED 1833.

FIRE AND MARINE. Head Office: TORONTO, CANADA.
UNITED STATES BRANCH.
JANUARY 1, 1906

Assets	$1,542,949.10
Liabilities	1,046,546.17
Net Surplus	$496,402.93

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.

SUCCESSFUL LIFE INSURANCE MEN

wishing to secure a first class contract with a continuous renewal interest should communicate with

Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.
CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

New policy forms with special features very attractive to prospective insurers.

FOR FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS

C. H. JACKSON, Agency Secretary.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.
GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41
(Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endownment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.
Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

Capital, $2,500,000. AGENTS WANTED.

SURETY ON BONDS.

American Surety Co.,

100 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK.

Capital, $2,500,000

STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Resources (including Capital, $2,500,000) $6,193,137.53
Liabilities (including Reserve, $856,188.70) 1,347,671.23

HENRY D. LYMAN, *President.* W. S. JOHNSTON, *Vice-President.*

Telephone : Cortlandt 5395.

Caledonian Ins. Co.,

FOUNDED 1805. **of Scotland.**

"The Oldest Scottish Insurance Office."

UNITED STATES HEAD OFFICE:

Caledonian Building, 50 and 52 Pine St., New York City

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets $1,883,210.00
Liabilities 1,215,950.00

Net Surplus Over All Liabilities..... $667,260.00

CHARLES H. POST, U. S. Mgr.
R. C. CHRISTOPHER, Ass't U. S. Mgr.

INCORPORATED 1865.

GERMAN INSURANCE CO.

OF FREEPORT, ILL.

The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1905, - - - - - - - $5,546,127.97
Cash Capital, - - - - - - - - - 200,000.00
Liabilities, including reinsurance, - - - 3,617,361.34
NET SURPLUS, - - - - - - - - - 1,728,766.63

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.

United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

C. H. Buuker, President. Franklin H. Head, Vice-President.
A. A. Smith, Secretary, H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.

Continental Casualty Company

POLICIES ARE PROTECTED by more than ONE MILLION DOLLARS ASSETS.

Capital Stock, $300,000.00

Accident and Health Insurance

General Offices, **Chicago.**

OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS paid in claims to 175,000 of our POLICYHOLDERS.

GOOD CONTRACTS IN GOOD TERRITORY TO GOOD MEN

Producers, address H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr. 134 Monroe Street, Chicago.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1905

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance. The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy. Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York

NEW YORK, February 15, 1906.

To the Board of Trustees of The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.

Gentlemen—The undersigned were appointed a Committee, pursuant to the following action taken, as set forth in the minutes of your meeting held December 6, 1905:

The President then stated that the by-laws required the appointment of a committee of four at the close of each fiscal year to examine the accounts and assets of the Company, and offered a resolution covering the point, which was as follows:

Whereas, Section 47 of the By-Laws of the Company provides that at the close of each fiscal year the accounts and assets of the Company shall be examined by a Special Committee of four or more Trustees (not members of the Finance Committee); and

Whereas, The Special Committee of the Board of Trustees appointed October 25, 1905, is about to engage in such an examination, and it is inexpedient that the accounts and assets of the Company should be subjected to the examination of two committees at the same time actuated by a like purpose;

Resolved, That the Special Committee to examine the accounts and assets of the Company consist of Messrs. William H. Truesdale, John W. Auchincloss, Stuyvesant Fish, and . . .

Resolved, That such Committee of four be also appointed as a Committee to audit the annual statement of the Company for the year 1905.

The resolution as offered was, on motion duly made and carried, adopted.

The question of the additional member of the Committee to examine the accounts and assets of the Company was then taken up.

On motion, duly made and carried, it was

Resolved, That the President be empowered to appoint the additional member.

On motion, duly made and carried, it was

Resolved, That the President have power to appoint alternates, if necessary, to assist in this work.

The President of the Company subsequently appointed Mr. William P. Dixon as a fourth member of this Committee.

Section 47 of the By-Laws of the Company reads as follows:

"47. At the close of each fiscal year, the accounts and assets of the Company shall be examined by a Special Committee of four or more Trustees (not members of the Finance Committee), whose report shall be placed on the minutes."

Your Committee beg to report that they have examined the accounts and assets of the Company as of December 31, 1905. The extent of the work to be performed and the necessity of doing it within a limited time precluded the possibility of the members of the Committee personally counting the securities. This work was entrusted to Messrs. Haskins & Sells and Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths & Co., the Public Accountants engaged by the Special Committee of the Board of Trustees appointed October 25, 1905.

Your Committee have, however, given their personal attention to the methods pursued by the Accountants in doing this work, and did severally attend from day to day while such counting was going on. They have familiarized themselves with the methods of counting, checking over and examining the securities, pursued by the Accountants, and beg to say that they approve thereof.

Your Committee have personally examined with care into the values at which the various securities are entered on the books of the Company, compared them in detail with the market reports of such values, and have looked thoroughly into the prices at which the stocks, bonds and other securities owned by the Company are carried on its books, and have found the valuations there given safe and conservative; in many instances less than the market value and in none in excess of such value.

Through the Accountants above referred to, all deposits in banks and trust companies have been verified, and the cash on hand has been counted and found to agree with the statement thereof.

Your Committee have also, through the Accountants, examined all the bonds and mortgages on real property, all loans upon collateral security and upon policies of the Company, and have in respect to each found the security ample, with proper and abundant margin on the loans. They have also gone very thoroughly into the methods pursued by the Accountants in making such examinations, and into the valuations put upon real property mortgaged to the Company, and approve the same.

The Committee certify that the investments of the Company are of the highest order and well selected, and with regard to their safekeeping desire to report that they are most favorably impressed with the methods under which the work in the Treasurer's Department, in caring for the securities of the Company, has been and is transacted. The Committee were much pleased with the thorough, systematic and careful manner in which this important work of caring for these, the principal negotiable securities of the Company, is and has been done.

Your Committee beg further to report that in respect to auditing the annual statement of the Company for the year 1905, they caused to be transmitted to the President a report, of which the following is a copy:

OFFICES OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS,
MUTUAL LIFE BUILDING, 32 NASSAU STREET. NEW YORK, January 31, 1906.

In re The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.
Interim Report of the Public Accountants at present engaged on an investigation of the affairs of the Company.
W. H. Truesdale, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.

Sir—Under appointment by your Committee *we are now engaged* on an investigation of the affairs and an audit of the books and accounts of your Company for the two years ended December 31, 1905.

In pursuance of our duties, we have, at this date, examined the following assets, viz.:

INVESTMENTS IN GOVERNMENT, RAILROAD AND OTHER BONDS.

We have counted and examined Bonds and certificates representing Bonds, owned and held by the Company, having a par value of $183,352,600, and have verified by acknowledgments of State and Foreign Governments that they held on deposit Bonds having a par value of $9,580,180.11. The total par value amounts to $192,932,780.11, and we have verified the market value thereof as $191,417,569.30.

INVESTMENTS IN RAILROAD, BANKING INSTITUTION AND OTHER STOCKS.

We have examined Certificates of Stocks owned and held by the Company having a par value of $30,235,600.00, and have verified by acknowledgments of State and Foreign Governments that they held on deposit Certificates of Stocks having a par value of $1,475,000.00. The total par value amounts to $31,710,600.00, and we have verified the market value thereof as $73,884,298.08.

LOANS SECURED BY MORTGAGES ON REAL ESTATE.

We have examined the Bonds and Mortgages held by the Company as security for its Loans on Real Estate and have verified that such Loans amount to $109,771,163.16 (3,930 first liens). The titles are now being inspected and the properties are being valued by appraisers appointed by your Committee.

LOANS SECURED BY BONDS AND STOCKS HELD AS COLLATERAL.

We have examined the Notes representing these Loans and the Bonds and Stocks held by the Company as collateral security therefor, and have verified the amount of such loans as $18,195,000.00. The market value of the collateral security was found to be more than 20 per cent. in excess of the amount of each loan.

LOANS SECURED BY COMPANY'S POLICIES.

We have examined at the Head Office 48,734 Loan Agreements and assigned policies held as security, representing loans to the amount of $26,999,011.99, and we have examined in London 1,685 Loan Agreements and assigned Policies held as security, representing Loans to the amount of $873,912.06, thereby verifying Loans to the amount of $27,872,924.05, secured by the Company's policies. The Policy Loan Agreements held at the Branch Offices of the Company in South Africa and Australia, where we are at present examining them, are stated by the Company as amounting to $325,354.79. The total of all these Loans amounts to $28,198,278.84.

CASH.

We have verified the Cash on Deposit, by certificates obtained from the Banks and Trust Companies in which such Deposits were held, amounting in the aggregate to $9,244,742.98, and we counted the Cash on hand in the Head Office at the close of December, 1905, amounting to $25,770.10, making the total amount of Cash verified $9,270,513.08.

PREMIUMS DUE AND UNCOLLECTED, AND DEFERRED PREMIUMS.

We have examined the records of the Company as to policies in force at the close of December, 1905, and have verified the gross amount of Premiums due and Uncollected as $4,596,209.53, and the gross amount of the Deferred Premiums as $2,873,396.31, making a gross total of $7,469,605.84.

We hereby certify that the books of the Company agree with the Assets herein specified as having been verified. Real Estate owned by the Company in the Boroughs of Manhattan and Brooklyn, New York, and in Boston and Philadelphia, has been valued by your Committee's appraisers, Messrs. Douglas Robinson, Charles S. Brown & Co., at the sum of $24,595,000.00, which, less a purchase-money incumbrance of $275,000.00, is $1,648,999.33 in excess of the Company's net book value. The other Real Estate owned by the Company is now being valued by your appraisers.

(Sgd.) HASKINS & SELLS, *Certified Public Accountants.*
(Sgd.) DELOITTE, PLENDER, GRIFFITHS & CO., *Chartered Accountants.*

All of which being respectfully submitted, your Committee beg to be discharged.

(Sgd.) W. H. TRUESDALE,
JOHN W. AUCHINCLOSS,
STUYVESANT FISH,
WM. P. DIXON,
Committee.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1906. No. 15.

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Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

HENRY H. HALL, whose unexpected death occurred this week, was representative of all that is best in the fire insurance business. As former president of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, and as the manager of agency companies whose transactions cover nearly all the States, his reputation as an influential underwriter was national, but his best and most lasting work was done in this community, in which he was easily among the first of underwriters during the past thirty years. He labored unceasingly by precept and example for the improvement of the business in all its details. His activity in the local board was an inspiration. It aroused action and led to results. He had most of the qualities of a successful leader—conviction, sincerity, personal magnetism, fluency and clarity as a speaker, and, in a measure rarely equalled, executive ability. Thus he was able to accomplish much good, more than most men in the business. The passing of such an underwriter in the prime of his intellect and usefulness is a calamity. Mr. Hall recognized the value of the insurance press, and was one of its most constant friends and counsellors. He contributed frequently to its columns, and always with the purpose of promoting some advantage to the business. This paper has for years relied upon his ready good offices in this respect, and will miss his presence greatly.

EVER since the fire insurance companies were driven out of Arkansas by the extra-territorial anti-compact law there has been a movement among the business interests in the State to secure the repeal of the law. There is much speculation therefore as to the effect which the triumph of Jeff (Jeffries, not Jefferson) Davis in his Senatorial campaign will have upon it. He will cease to be Governor when he goes to Washington to join his fellow pitchforker from South Carolina. His direct influence upon State legislation will be less than that of his successor, who will be a man of different type and one in closer sympathy with the down-trodden property owners of the cities and larger towns. That Jeff will modify his hostile attitude toward the insurance "trust" is not to be expected. It is an important part of his stock in trade. He uses it to impress the "plain people" with his services as their champion against the insurance oppressor. It is true that the plain people, being mostly small farmers and yeomen, do not have much use for fire insurance, but they feel wronged all the same, if the Governor tells them they are. His methods are described in the following newspaper paragraph:

In discussing in one of his stump speeches a legislative hearing on the anti-compact bill, which he was pushing in the Arkansas Legislature, he dramatically inquired of his audience what witnesses had been summoned. Not the farmer, laborer, mechanic, merchant, nor "the class of citizens who bare their breasts and their arms and their backs to the heat and burdens of the day," he rapidly ran along. "No," he continued, "they sent for a high collared crowd—that crowd that wear collars so high they can't see the sun except at high noon looking over the tops of their collars; the crowd that, when they shake hands with you, only give the tip of two fingers; the crowd that you can't tell from their tracks whether they are going north or coming back."

The fame of Davis has hitherto been local, and his sudden transmutation into a character of national proportions is exciting a good deal of interest in the press. Even his own party papers are disturbed by his break into the open, and are perhaps generally voiced by the declaration of the Nashville *American* that he is "a low, vulgar demagogue of the most disgusting type, and a disgrace to Arkansas." What concerns the insurance man, in and outside the State, is the removal of this unprincipled politician to a position where he can do no harm from one in which he has been able to make trouble for the large business interests and the underwriters alike. The matter is one of larger importance than that of doing business in Arkansas, for a repeal of the extra-territorial anti-compact law of that State will check any tendency to repeat it in the Southwest, with conditions under which it is impossible for companies to operate in the regular way.

THE vicious attack of Mr. Samuel Untermyer on the president of the Mutual Life insurance company is a part of the reopening campaign of the Lawson forces for the possession of the assets of the company. Mr. Untermyer is notoriously the attorney for Lawson. He announced himself as such several weeks ago, when Lawson was running about the country interviewing Governors with the view of getting them to aid him in alluring the proxies of policyholders into his possession. There was to be a so called "Governors' committee," which was to meet in New York, with 150,000 policyholders imported by Lawson, when the Mutual and New York Life held their annual meetings, and Mr. Untermyer was the well advertised counsel of this committee. He is also counsel for a so called "International Association of Policyholders," which has been organized for the solicitation of proxies of policyholders by Mr. Bowles, a former general agent of the Mutual Life, who aspired to the presidency of the company three years ago and failed, and who, in league with Lawson, is again reaching after that high office. Mr. Stuyvesant Fish two weeks ago, in alarm at the coupling of his name with this combination, caused the official statement to be sent to us that "he had not as yet committed himself in insurance matters to any existing policyholders' committee, public reports to the contrary notwithstanding. His position is for the development of legitimate business along conservative lines." It is with these speculative gentlemen, from contact with whom Mr. Fish shies, that Mr. Untermyer is acting as counsel. This, then, readily explains his purpose in openly assailing President Peabody, and the shibboleth he has

selected is the alleged connection of Mr. Peabody with the Standard Oil interests. The latter has denied over his own signature this connection. His statement is: "I want to be understood as saying that all suggestions that I am the instrument of, or was proposed by, or am in any way under the influence of the gentlemen identified with the Standard Oil Company have no basis except in the efforts of sensational journalism." This is as emphatic as a denial as words can make it. Now, Mr. Untermyer, after admitting in his letter that the president has "always borne a reputation for unquestioned integrity," proceeds to charge him with the lack of that virtue in saying falsely that he is not the representative of the Standard Oil Company. The language Mr. Untermyer uses is: "Mr. Peabody * * is universally recognized as the figurehead of this financial group, which seems to have been able to control a great property, in which they have no interest, and notwithstanding the reign of corruption that flourished under their régime. Mr. Peabody's selection was due entirely to the domination of the Baker-Rogers influence in the board, and it may be safely said that he is their nominee, and that they are supporting him." Here we have the issue of veracity joined. Whom will the policyholders believe—the man of "unquestioned integrity," *vide* Mr. Untermyer, or the attorney of the persons to whom Governor Higgins evidently alluded as "the hungry horde of adventurers, of self-guaranteed integrity," in his warning to policyholders? Mr. Untermyer is an able lawyer. But he is acting, not as a disinterested reformer but as a paid attorney for persons who are avowedly making an attempt to obtain control of the Mutual Life and its four hundred and fifty millions of assets, and his motives must be judged by the same standard as they were when he was the attorney for James Hazen Hyde, and defended him against the charges of being the representative of avaricious and grasping high financial interests. He speaks as the attorney, not from conviction but to serve the interest of his client.

Facts and Opinions.

A letter written by Samuel Untermyer, counsel for the "International Committee of Policyholders" and Thomas W. Lawson, to a British policyholder of the **Mutual Life insurance company** was given out by its author this week. In this he charged that President Peabody is the representative of the Standard Oil Company, and is looking after its interests in the Mutual Life. Mr. Untermyer further asserted that the present suits brought by the company against its old officers were not instituted in good faith, and are intended to cover up the misdeeds of certain of the trustees who abetted the officers. The letter was highly sensational, and its purpose was evidently to create distrust in the present administration of the Mutual Life so as to promote the interests attacking it, of which Mr. Untermyer is attorney. President Peabody, on being asked about this letter, said briefly that it did not need any extended answer, as the substance had already been contradicted. The counsel of the Truesdale committee of the Mutual Life, Joseph H. Choate, had a conference on Tuesday with Mr. Juilliard, who recently returned from England bearing certain propositions from the British policyholders of the company, and it was arranged that Mr. Choate should send a telegram to them stating that the propositions would require careful legal consideration, pending which the trustees would be pleased to have the British policyholders appoint an actuary of their own to verify the company's reserve and liabilities. A London cable of Wednesday states that a meeting of the policyholders has been called for April 20 to take up Mr. Choate's dispatch, and that meanwhile they charge him with evading the issue. They are satisfied with the financial condition of the company, but demand a change in the management, desiring particularly the retirement of those of the trustees who were closely associated with the McCurdys. Being asked by reporters for his views on this statement President Peabody said on Thursday that "if the British policyholders will write over and say what trustees should resign these trustees will resign or explain why they should not." He gave the following as a synopsis of the requests of the British policyholders sent through Mr. Juilliard:

First—They asked us to permit an English actuary to verify the computation of the reserve liabilities which already had been made by the Insurance Department of the State of New York. That we cheerfully assented to.

Second—They asked that we elect one or more English trustees. This, I presume, the company will do very cheerfully, and we will be glad to have names suggested by the English policyholders.

Third—We have been asked to turn over the English business of this company to a new company to be formed in London, and to pay over at the same time the total reserves held against the English policies. This we see no legal or lawful way of doing at present. For that and for other reasons, we have not considered it practicable. The legal questions involved are being examined now by Mr. Choate.

Western fire insurance is not without its humors, and the Round Table Club, which meets daily for luncheon at the Union League Club in Chicago, believes that it has the best joke of its history **on P. D. McGregor, Western manager of the Queen.** Mr. McGregor was honored recently by an invitation to deliver an address on fire insurance before the College of Commerce of the University of Illinois at Champaign, his name having been suggested by a New York manager who had been asked to name the best Chicago talent available. Mr. McGregor prepared an able address, and went to Champaign April 3 to deliver it, telegraphing that he was on the way. When he arrived there no one met him; at the university no one seemed to know anything about his lecture, and it finally developed that the professor with whom the arrangements had been made had been taken suddenly and seriously ill and that nobody had known anything of Mr. McGregor's coming or that he was to lecture until the arrival of the telegram announcing he was on his way. A notice had then been pasted on the bulletin board and six students put in an appearance at the hour set. The professor in charge was unable to understand this, and calling one of the students to the platform was informed that the Chicago National League team was playing a match game of baseball with the 'varsity team at that hour, that admission was free, and that everybody was there. "Professor" McGregor happened to overhear this, and very promptly announced that he would not attempt to show against such competition, advised the six students to get over to the game as soon as possible, and promised to follow them, which he did. The members of the faculty were profuse in their apologies, but Mr. McGregor understood that the illness of the dean, with whom he had corresponded, was responsible for the misunderstanding, and promised to deliver the lecture at a future time. Incidentally the Round Table had cooked up a scheme to rattle Mr. McGregor in the midst of his lecture, and had arranged to have a telegram delivered to him during the discourse which said merely, "Chestnuts, from the Round Table Club." As it was, it reached Mr. McGregor as he was on his way to the baseball game, and merely added another to the humors of the situation.

A new complaint has been prepared by the law department of the Mutual Life relating to the appointment of **Robert H. McCurdy** as superintendent of the foreign business of that

company. It charges that in 1886, when the appointment was made, Richard A. and Robert H. McCurdy conspired unduly and unjustly to enrich the latter by maintaining his compensation at exorbitant rates. The complaint alleges that Robert H. McCurdy received $530,000 from Charles H. Raymond & Co., the agency firm, from 1883 to 1893, and that when he was made foreign superintendent he continued his connection with the firm. Then, it is alleged, President McCurdy put his son's compensation as superintendent on a commission rather than salary basis, thus allowing him to get $1,282,841.66 in commissions. Judgment is demanded for $1,002,841.66, the difference between what Robert H. McCurdy actually obtained and what the Mutual management now considers a fair compensation. The summons in the first of several suits which the Mutual Life will bring against **Andrew H. Fields** was served Tuesday from the office of Joseph H. Choate, the company's special counsel. Service was accepted by H. P. Velte, an attorney with offices in the Mutual Life Building, in behalf of Mr. Fields. An effort to find Mr. Fields himself at Dobbs Ferry, at which he was reported to have arrived last week, was abortive, and it is suspected that he has gone away again. Fields has published a defense of himself, in which he declares:

I never gave a bribe in my career. I am prepared to vindicate myself completely when the time comes. I shall tell the whole truth, let it fall on whom it will. The trustees who are pointing the finger of scorn at me now were well aware of all that I was doing. I saved the Mutual Life insurance company hundreds of thousands of dollars. The stories circulated concerning the "House of Mirth" at Albany are all malicious libels. It was conducted in a perfectly proper way. It is ridiculous for anyone to say that the records and books of the supply department have been destroyed. Anyone who says that lies. I am positive they are still in existence.

The attorneys for the McCurdy family state that answers to none of the suits will be made "until the deluge is over." Mr. John S. Wise, personal counsel for Mr. Raymond and Mr. Thebaud, says:

When the answers to the Mutual Life suits are made you will find sweeping denials of all the charges made in the complaints. The answers will cite specific instances of where others in the Mutual Life, rather than my clients, have been culpable.

The **semi-annual meeting of the Western Union,** held at Atlanta, Ga., on Wednesday and Thursday of this week, was well attended and cordially welcomed by the Southern underwriters. Much of the business transacted was routine, and not as much time was needed for it as had been expected. President Cofran in his address made a strong plea for cooperation in the face of the new problems presented by constantly falling rates. He urged the retention and elaboration of the present system of schedule rating, which, he held, best satisfied the public, because it informed the insured how his rate was made and the reasons for it. He predicted more anti-compact laws as the result of present unrest as to rates and the recent Supreme Court decision, and suggested the making of equitable rates as the best method of meeting this. The convention created a committee to have complete charge of rating matters in all their details. It will consist of three experienced managers to serve for fixed terms. This was the most important business of the meeting. A material enlargement of the classes which may be written at two rates for three years under the supervision of the governing committee was agreed to. The matter of tornado insurance was referred to a committee for conference with companies writing that class of business. Resolutions were adopted on the death of Henry H. Hall. It was voted to hold the annual meeting at Frontenac, in the Thousand Islands, next September. The local underwriters were very hospitable, and entertained the visitors at a typical Southern barbecue, which was presided over by Manager Stockdell, of the Phenix. The general feeling of the delegates was that the meeting had done much to put the Union in better shape to contend with everchanging conditions in the West and Southwest.

In a report to the executive committee of the **National Association of Life Underwriters** on the **life insurance legislation** proposed at the Chicago conference by the New York Legislature and by the Ames bill in Congress, President Charles W. Scovel, of the association, says:

The Chicago committee does not approve the Armstrong propositions that State "interference" should extend to "limiting volume of new business, limiting expense loading, restricting commissions and other expenses, and limiting surplus or contingency reserves; nor does it propose to limit investments, except in real estate. It thus avoids paternalism, and, moreover, shuns the newly evolved heresy that new insurants must, within their first year, pay for themselves, and also for the general expenses incurred that year in properly spreading the benefits of life insurance among the people. At the same time it recognizes the public need for new and small companies by distinctly approving the preliminary term plan, which it prefers to the "select and ultimate" method of recognizing that need. It lays stress upon the demand for a practical plan to place the widely scattered policyholders in actual control, and proposes cumulative voting and modified representative government for mutual companies. As the main preventives for extravagance and mismanagement, the committee wisely pins its faith upon the cardinal principles of publicity and meritorious competition, and recommends "an annual accounting and report of dividends on all plans of insurance and all durations and at different ages." With this it associates the standard policy idea, but so modified as to obviate most objections. It approves the principles of a number of the Armstrong bills that meet quite general approval—except that many will not agree as to compelling annual distribution (a distinct matter from the annual accounting and reporting referred to), or as to forbidding a company to write participating and non-participating policies. The prohibition of board contracts and stock schemes will be welcomed generally. The committee also discussed fully the bill introduced in Congress by the Hon. Butler Ames, of Massachusetts, and gave many suggestions to aid in making it the model insurance code which President Roosevelt is understood to desire to have framed for the District of Columbia and the Territories. Such a code enacted by Congress will strongly tend toward uniformity among the States, and seems to be the best available substitute for the much discussed, but at present unattainable, ideal of national supervision.

The Maryland Casualty Company has the following explanation of the action recently taken by the **liability conference** in withdrawing the **non-competitive clause,** in the current number of its publication, the *Budget:*

The termination of the agreement not to compete means that the managers of the conference companies will be relieved hereafter of the annoyances and friction which the occasional instances of agency violation of the rate gave rise to. It also means that, while the agents of the conference companies will not be permitted to raid one another's business, they are free to compete among themselves fairly and without other restrictions than those of decency and sound underwriting requirements. Its greatest significance, however, lies in the fact that it makes the nature of conference membership such that it is difficult to conceive of any reason why any liability company should not at once apply for admission. As has been frequently pointed out in these columns and elsewhere, there is the clearest necessity for every bit of information and experience available in the writing of this hazardous business. The compilation of statistics in possession of the conference is of such extent, as to length of periods covered, range of classification, extent of territory and volume of business, as to render it of very great service in everyday underwriting. The addition to this of the statistics of other companies writing liability insurance will proportionately increase its value. Such companies may now enjoy and add to the benefits of the conference compilation, without placing upon themselves any obligation other than to contribute their proportion of the expense of maintaining it, and their quota of experience figures. Heretofore the rule which forbade one conference company to write a risk that was expiring on the books of another conference company was a serious objection to membership, in the judgment of some non-members. That rule no longer exists.

In consideration of the virtuous attitude of many of the **daily papers** of Canada toward the life insurance companies which are under investigation by the Government commission, the Montreal *Witness* suggests that they might not be averse to a **Government examination** of themselves as to whether they have ever been influenced by bribery or the corrupt purposes of trusts and politicians, or have ever

swerved from the straight line of rectitude. The *Witness* says:

We wonder what would be the result of overhauling the financial ethics of the newspapers during the past thirty years, exactly as the insurance business is now being overhauled. Is not the newspaper business a public trust, far more important and more sacred than even that of life insurance? Would it not be interesting to learn in how many ways opinion, supposed to be set forth for the public good, has been prostituted to financial considerations? Has it not been an everyday principle with many large concerns to use their advertising and printing patronage as a means of bribing the press? Has not a great deal of advertising been placed for the purpose of keeping certain branches of the press civil? And have not periodicals been known to live largely by insinuating what mischief they could make if they wished? How would the newspapers generally stand an inquiry into their past relations with party and other political funds involving such a careful and minute exposure as Mr. Blackadar has been able to give with regard to the management of insurance companies, or why should such an inquiry not be had? Such an inquiry would probably afford the public all the scandal it could devour.

Interesting figures are furnished by the annual compilation made by the Chicago *Insurance Post* of the **business of Union and non-Union companies.** These show that in proportion the non-Union companies are increasing their business more rapidly than the Union companies. The Union companies show a ratio of surplus to assets of 35.73 per cent. as against 34.70 per cent. for the non-Union companies. The ratio of losses incurred to premiums is 42.3 per cent. for the Union companies and 44.9 per cent. for the non-Union companies, this being the first time on record when the non-Union companies had a higher loss ratio. The expense ratio of the Union companies was 36.01, and that of the non-Union companies 38.02, the Union companies showing an increase from 35.38 last year, while the non-Union companies scored a material reduction from 39.08 in 1904. The increase in losses and reduction in expense ratio of the non-Union companies is accounted for by the fact that they are now writing a larger proportion of hazardous business at a lower commission rate.

The **resignation of Mr. Charles A. Shaw** as president of the Hanover Fire insurance company was received by the board of directors at its meeting on Wednesday. Mr. Shaw was uppointed by Mayor McClellan in June, 1905, one of the three commissioners of water supply in New York at a salary of $12,000 per annum, and the work of the commission is so exacting that he has decided to relinquish the presidency of the insurance company, although he will remain a member of the board of directors. The other position is practically an appointment for life, for the new water board is a permanent bureau of the city government. Mr. Shaw is sixty-seven years old, and has been in the service of the Hanover Fire since 1866. He became an official in 1884, and was elected president in 1900, succeeding I. Remsen Lane. He has been secretary of the National Board of Fire Underwriters since 1902. It is a satisfaction to know that this able and valuable fire underwriter will continue in touch with the fire insurance business.

Commenting on the doleful views of Mr. Charles E. Hughes and ex-Mayor Seth Low on **modern corporation morality,** as expressed at the Sunday meeting of the Society of Ethical Culture, the New York *Commercial* says:

If the sound moral sense of the people has been awakened, if the public conscience has really been quickened, the results could not possibly be any such suspicion breeding and depressing conditions as these men have portrayed. The new life insurance executives and directors are not for the most part, it is true, practical, trained insurance men. The situation called rather for the selection of men of character and ability and standing, men who would re-establish popular confidence and duly safeguard the great business structures that their predecessors had built up, but had permitted to get into corrupt or careless hands—and they are doing that, have done it already. There is no such "popular impression" in Wall Street as our former mayor has described. If there were or ever had been, the larger business of the metropolis would be in a state of chaos today—which it isn't. Confidence is its corner stone. Is not reform itself getting "yellow" when one of its great apostles pours out such pessimism on the minds of an intelligent audience? Isn't it about time to sober down and shake ourselves loose of all this life insurance hysteria?

In a circular to the company's agents the **North American Life of Toronto** corrects certain misstatements of the Toronto *World* growing out of the current Government insurance investigation. The company denies that there is any intention of displacing President John L. Blaikie, who is in excellent health and keeps himself in touch with the affairs of the company. A reference made by the paper to the gain and loss exhibit of the company, which appears in the report of the Armstrong Committee in New York, is based on a printer's error in the exhibit, which is explained, and the charge falls with it. Regarding the company's investments the circular says:

Reference has been made to the investments held by this company in American bonds, and it is claimed that we have exceeded our authority in the amount of such bonds held by us, but no question has been raised as to the quality of the bonds themselves. It will be interesting to you to learn that no question was ever raised on this point by the Insurance Department at Ottawa until February of this year, and we certainly believe that we were justified in holding the amount of bonds we did.

The affairs of the **Louisiana National Life Assurance Society** of New Orleans are reported as progressing favorably. This society will not write any board contracts nor make any attempt to canvass the general public by means of special contracts of any kind outside of the insurance contract proper. A number of the stockholders have been written for policies, and within a week policies will be delivered. The State of Louisiana and the city of New Orleans are being rapidly organized, and a number of experienced agents have already signed contracts with the society. In the near future this society expects to enter several other States, and negotiations with this end in view have already begun. The outlook for the Louisiana National continues favorable, and after the detailed work of organization is completed it is expected that a very satisfactory amount of business will be written.

In the matter of the petition recently filed and argued before Insurance Commissioner Nichols, of the State of **Washington,** for the forfeiting of the licenses of certain fire insurance companies alleged to be in **unlawful combination to control rates,** the Commissioner has filed his written decision denying the petition but asking for the correction of certain abuses alleged to exist in the management of insurance business in that State. After reviewing the testimony and argument of counsel at length, the Commissioner directs that while it shall be held legal to maintain a bureau which shall establish and give out insurance rates, the agents in future shall report to their respective companies instead of to the bureau. The decision concludes as follows: "The Insurance Department expects that the insurance managers and their agents, now fully knowing the ground of complaint on the part of the petitioners and the requests of this department, will formulate a plan granting the requisite changes."

The April meeting of the **Insurance Library Association,** of Boston, is to take place at the Boston Club, No. 22 School street, next Friday evening. The general subject of discussion at the meeting will be "Fire Protective Devices." Russell Grinnell, vice president of the General Fire Extinguisher Company, will speak on "Automatic Sprinkler Protection"; Manager George A. Wall, of the National Fire Appliance Company, on "Automatic Thermostat Protection"; Superintendent C. C. Johnson, of the American District Telephone

Company, on "Sprinkler Supervisory Systems," and George W. Bowen, of the Boston Automatic Fire Alarm Company, on "Central Station Watchman's Service." There will be music at this, probably the last, meeting of the association for the season.

A Boston grand jury on Saturday indicted Frederick F. Hockaday, agent of the New York Life and Mutual Life, on two counts alleging the **granting of rebates** on insurance policies in violation of the law. The first count alleges that on March 14, 1906, Hockaday, as agent for the Mutual Life, allowed Joseph A. Haley a rebate of premium as an inducement for insurance, and the second count charges that on March 2, this year, while serving as agent for the New York Life, he allowed Richard J. Burton a similar rebate. The evidence in this case was furnished by Thomas W. Lawson, who got the men into the trouble. They were arraigned on Monday, when Hockaday pleaded not guilty and was held in $500 for trial. Bail was furnished.

The organization of the **Ohio State Life insurance company** was perfected at Columbus, Ohio, on Thursday, about seventy-five of the subscribers, representing all sections of the State, being present. Bylaws and a constitution were adopted, and each of the prospective stockholders is pledged to take not less than $2,500 insurance in the company. The capital stock of the company is to be $100,000, with a share par value of $100. The following officers and directors were chosen: President, J. C. F. Hull, Bucyrus; first vice president, H. P. Angel, Columbus; second vice president, J. A. Bartine, Canton; third vice president, Irving Drew, Portsmouth; secretary, J. M. Sarver, Canton; treasurer, W. E. Janaway, Columbus.

In answer to an inquiry from the Insurance Commissioner of Washington State, asking how **automobiles** ought to be **classified for purposes of insurance,** the Assistant Attorney General of that State has replied that they may be classed with marine risks. He says:

The automobile appears to be a *nullius filius* in our insurance laws. No niche clearly appears in the insurance laws for such risks. While this modern machine is a thing of beauty, it is an inanimate object, and for that reason live stock, casualty or life insurance will not cover the risk. This leaves only marine insurance, and, indeed, there are many points of similarity in the risks assumed between an automobile and a ship. Both are liable to collision, fire, breakdown, explosion, injury from the elements and running amuck, and insurance that meets the risks of a floating vessel apparently covers the risks of an automobile.

Washington, D. C., fire underwriters are greatly interested in the agitation now going on there for a **high pressure water system.** The fate of Baltimore, then not so equipped and so near at hand, is pointed out as one that might overtake the capital any time. Secretary Alexander K. Phillips, of the Potomac insurance company, in a recent interview favored the immediate adoption of the high pressure system, and expressed the hope that it could be installed before a sweeping conflagration. President Walter Brown, of the Board of Fire Underwriters, in indorsing the idea, said: "If high pressure could be installed it would result in a reduction of insurance rates."

The board of trustees of the **Michigan A. O. U. W.** decided not to draw upon their reserve to make good the unpaid death claims, as had been contemplated. The reserve was accumulated for a different purpose, and litigation was threatened if it was touched to pay claims. The officers were authorized to negotiate a loan of $50,000 to pay the most pressing claims, in hope that the losses would fall off so as to allow the lodge to catch up. It made a material increase in rates on the older ages last year, and while this did not produce much additional income it forced many of the older members out of the order, so that lighter losses are expected hereafter.

The final meeting of the **Michigan Field Club** was enlivened by a very acrimonious discussion between some of the members on the charges of bad faith and lack of co-operation. Special Agent Fowler, of the German American, read an extended defense of accusations made against him by Special Agent Sheridan, of the Hartford Fire, in connection with the making of rates on the new Methodist church at Belden, and the general sentiment was that he had "cleared himself" of the charges made. The vote to disband the organization was carried by 27 to 7.

The **Preferred Accident** has issued a **new policy,** which it calls "advanced disability," and which has a number of special features, among which are the following:

Weekly indemnity is paid during the convalescent period under health benefit clause; the quarantine benefit is payable if confined on ship or in house even though there is no sickness of crew or family; the health insurance in lieu of the first fifteen days of omission is continued for fifteen days after lapse of the accident benefits; the policy does not require accidental death, loss of limb or sight to occur with the usual ninety days' limit, but any time within 200 weeks' disability; beneficiary is insured for $7,500, and also for weekly indemnity.

The Correctional Tribunal of the Seine at Paris, France, rendered a decision on Saturday in the **suit for alleged slander** and defamation of character brought by M. Flox Duboin, a lawyer, against Percy Peixoto, director-general in Paris of the Equitable Life of New York. The tribunal dismissed the complaint of defamation of character, but sustained the charge of slander. Mr. Peixoto was fined 3,000 francs, and 1 franc civil damages. The Equitable Company was declared to be responsible for the actions of its local director-general.

The premiums received by the **Phœnix of London** from its world business in 1905 were £1,423,987, and the losses paid and outstanding at the close of the year were £690,721, a ratio of 48.5. The financial position of the company December 31, 1905, was as follows: Capital paid up, £268,880; reserve for unexpired risks, £600,000; investment reserve, £45,034; general reserve fund, £750,000; balance at credit of profit and loss account, £273,879; total, £1,937,793; capital subscribed but not called up, £2,419,920; grand total, £4,357,713.

Insurance amounting to between $50,000 and $60,000 was carried **on the automobiles** burned Sunday morning in the Imperial Automobile Garage at 52-54 West Sixty-seventh street, New York. About $25,000 was carried in the Federal of New Jersey and a large amount by the Boston insurance company. The United States Lloyds had $18,400 involved, as follows: $5,000 each on two Westinghouse cars, $5,300 on a Pierce Arrow, $2,000 on a Franklin car and $1,100 on a Pierce stanhope.

The annual report of the **Atlas Assurance Company of London** states that in the year ending December 31, 1905, the net fire premiums were £983,558, and the losses £454,075, being 46.1 per cent. of the premiums. The balance of the year's revenue is £169,304, of which the sum of £48,219 has been added to the reserve for unexpired risks forming part of the fire fund, £14,494 has been carried to profit and loss account, and the balance, £106,591, left in the fire fund. The total fire fund is £820,396.

As a result of several brutal murders in **Chicago** a campaign was started which resulted in the doubling of the

saloon license, making possible an **increase of 1,000 in the police force.** These are now being put on at the rate of several hundred a month. Burglary insurance companies report that the effect is already noticeable in a smaller number of losses, partly due to the increased protection, and also to the fact that thieves have been leaving the city in anticipation of the reform.

The **loss on the grain in the Peavey elevator at Duluth,** the heaviest loss of the year so far in the West, has been settled. The sound value was found to be $618,074, with insurance of $649,500. The loss to insurance is 95 per cent., the salvage being handled by the companies for their own account. The regular salvage companies are charged with organizing a pool to keep the prices down, and the companies expect to realize considerably more than the highest figure offered.

A committee consisting of Messrs. E. C. Brush, A. M. Bullard, W. H. Rogers, G. O. Russell and H. Coolidge has been appointed by the **Boston Board of Fire Underwriters,** in accordance with the recommendation of the company managers who visited the Hub last week, to confer with representatives of the New England Insurance Exchange and of the Suburban Underwriters' Association, in order to put the conduct of the latter on a firmer and more satisfactory basis.

The report of the directors of the **State Fire of Liverpool,** to be submitted to the annual meeting, showed that in the year ended December 31, 1905, the net premiums were £148,660; total income, £172,613; net losses £76,716, and total expenditure, £130,127, leaving a credit balance of £42,486. The directors have transferred £30,000 to the reserve fund, thereby increasing it to £100,000, and leaving a net balance to credit of profit and loss of £6,932, which is carried forward.

The **Southern States Life** insurance company of Atlanta, Ga., has organized by electing officers as follows: Wilmer L. Moore, president; P. C. Wadsworth, vice president and director of agencies; Frank Orme, secretary and treasurer; Miles M. Dawson, consulting actuary; C. R. Happer, assistant director of agencies; Dr. W. S. Kendrick, medical director; Joseph H. Williams, auditor; F. W. Edwards, field superintendent. The announced capital stock is $50,000.

The elevator mutuals are still continuing their raids on **country elevators in Illinois,** and are now estimated to be carrying fully 50 per cent. of the business. The stock companies hurt themselves by three successive increases on elevators, and the reduction made last year did not do them much good. The elevator mutuals write at lower rates, and for several years have made an average rebate of 20 per cent. They get, as a rule, the cream of the business.

The foreign insurance companies doing business in Colorado have won their cases against the State Auditor and the Deputy Insurance Commissioner, Judge Malone handing down an opinion in which he decided that the insurance companies do not have to pay **licenses for** solicitors employed by their **Colorado agents.** The agents pay a license fee for every solicitor in their employ, and this covers the statute, according to Judge Malone.

Replying to the question whether the **Mutual Life is paying agents increased commissions** and commissions on renewals until the Armstrong limitation bill goes into effect, President Peabody told anxious reporters on Thursday that he would be glad to recommend such a course, as the agents had suffered very much through the disturbances in the insurance world, and their faithfulness in the past should be considered.

The application of Frederick A. Burnham, president of the **Mutual Reserve Life;** George Burnham and George D. Eldridge, for leave to inspect the minutes of the grand jury on the larceny and forgery charges against them, was granted by Judge O'Sullivan in General Sessions on Monday. The motion was made by William Rand, Jr., their counsel, who served notice on the same day for a dismissal of the indictment.

The persons seeking incorporation as the **American Life insurance company of Boston** intend trying the experiment of selling life insurance "over the counter," and by dispensing with the services of agents to supply indemnity at reduced rates. They claim that capitalists stand ready to back the scheme with $500,000, to be withdrawn eventually when the company is firmly on its feet.

At the quarterly meeting of the **Chicago Board of Underwriters** on Thursday the proposed plan for a conservative **reduction in rates on preferred classes,** which had been offered as a substitute for the more radical reduction by application of the coinsurance clause, was defeated by a large majority. The sentiment of the members was clearly in opposition to any reduction whatever.

Hereafter the Indianapolis office of the **New York Life** will look after the **western Michigan territory,** as the Grand Rapids office, conducted for eleven years, has been closed on account of "expense." Mr. B. T. Webster, agency director there, has gone to Washington to engage in the real estate business. The Michigan field is so scattered that getting new business is expensive there.

As a result of the promotion of George E. Haas from special agent in Indiana and Kentucky to Western manager of the **Atlas,** a **rearrangement** of his field is expected. Indiana will be added to Michigan under Special Agent Morin, most of Kentucky to Special Agent Barclay's field, while Louisville and cities opposite Cincinnati will be covered by Special Agent Neuberger, of Ohio.

After pleading guilty to an indictment charging him with **setting fire to the Boston and Maine warehouse** at Prison Point in the Charlestown district of Boston on the night of August 23, 1904, Llewellyn Newbert was sentenced to State prison for a term of from eight to ten years by Judge Bond in the Superior Criminal Court at Boston last Wednesday.

The Ocean Accident and Guarantee having decided to enter the fire insurance business also, and change its name to the **Ocean Assurance Company,** has appointed Llewellyn J. Cocks its fire insurance manager. Mr. Cocks is the present home fire superintendent of the Atlas of London, and has been connected with British fire underwriting thirty years.

Some progress toward the consummation of the 20 per cent. commission agreement for the **metropolitan district about Boston** has been made during the past week. Only a dozen or so of the leading companies are now blocking the agreement, and local underwriters are hopeful of getting their signatures before long.

Satisfied that the **Hotel Belmont,** Forty-second street and Park avenue, New York, is fully fireproof, its management

has decided **to forego fire insurance** and will carry its own risk. The building is twenty-eight stories, being furnished with a model fire-fighting apparatus, and finished throughout in fireproofed wood.

Three suits have been instituted in Cincinnati by one David **Baumgartner against the New York Life** insurance company to recover premiums paid on lapsed policies on the ground that he was obliged to let them lapse because of the mismanagement of his interests in the company by the officers.

The **Arkansas** Insurance Department report for 1905 shows that last year stock fire insurance companies collected premiums in the State of $1,840,639, while their losses aggregated $1,281,269. The loss ratio for the past twenty-five years has been 60.6 per cent., while last year it was 69.6.

The **Great Western Life** insurance company of Indianapolis, Ind., has filed articles of incorporation which state that the company already has applications for more than $200,000 of insurance. The company is purely mutual, and will write life, accident and permanent disability insurance.

A report in the London *Daily Telegraph* that the Atlas and Commercial Union are supposed to be negotiating for **amalgamation** is pronounced in a cable dispatch from the office of the former to United States Manager Lock "ridiculous" and "absolutely without foundation."

The spring meeting of the **Boston Life Underwriters' Association** will take place at Young's Hotel, Tuesday, April 24, and among the speakers expected is William C. Johnson, whose able advocacy of the agents' interests at Albany has given him a national reputation.

The general agent for New Mexico of the **State Life of Indiana,** James B. Rutherford, has been indicted at Albuquerque on thirteen counts charging him with embezzlement of the funds of the company. The auditor says that his shortage amounts to about $4,000.

Notice was served on United States agents of the **General Accident of Perth** this week by the home office that the authority of Muir & Haughton, the managers in this country, has been revoked. Franklin J. Moore is now in charge.

The Interstate Fire insurance company of Suffolk, Va., has been incorporated with a capital of $200,000 to do a fire and marine insurance business. The officers are: J. E. West, president, and J. T. Withers, secretary and treasurer.

The **Commercial Fire of Little Rock,** Ark., a mutual insurance company, has been incorporated with these officers: Chas. P. Harnwell, president; I. I. Lowden, treasurer; J. C. Evans, secretary. M. K. Watson is the other director.

The Illinois Life has absolutely forbidden the **use of estimates** by its agents. Hereafter they are to secure applications, not by guessing on what the profits will be, but by showing the cheapness of the insurance.

With headquarters at Seattle, Wash., the **Manufacturers and Merchants Fire and Marine insurance company** underwriters has filed articles of incorporation and secured a certificate authorizing it to do business.

The nineteenth annual convention of the **International Association of Accident Underwriters** is officially announced to take place July 10 to 13, inclusive, at the Hotel Champlain, Lake Champlain, N. Y.

The **J. N. Burnes agency at St. Joseph, Mo.,** which was the centre of the recent lively rate war, **has Unionized,** letting go the German of Freeport, Milwaukee Mechanics, North River and Northern of New York.

The **Fidelity and Casualty Company** has withdrawn from South Dakota, declining to deposit the $20,000 bond now required of such companies as a condition of license to do business in the State.

The time of the April grand jury in New York this week was largely devoted to hearing evidence against the former officers of the **Washington Life** placed before it by the District Attorney.

The **fire department situation at Boston** has been relieved by the appropriation of a sufficient amount to maintain the department upon a "one day off in five" basis during the current year.

We join in welcoming *Whittlings,* the company paper issued by the **New Hampshire Fire insurance company,** back to earth after a long disappearance. It is edited by a wit and sage.

A fine stone building, steel frame and fireproof, will be erected this year by the **Massachusetts Mutual Life** at Springfield. Architects are now being consulted in New York city.

At the meeting of the **New York Fire Insurance Exchange** on Wednesday, A. M. Thorburn was elected secretary-treasurer.

Additional surplus to the extent of $100,000 has been paid in by the stockholders of the **New Brunswick Fire.**

The Southern of New Orleans and the Delaware Fire of Dover have been **admitted to Minnesota.**

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Hanover Fire of New York: O. M. Sadler, Jr., special agent for North Carolina and South Carolina.

Providence-Washington: Horace P. Spear, agent for Charleston, S. C., and vicinity.

Rochester German: E. B. Vanderveer, sole agent at Brooklyn, N. Y.

Southern of New Orleans: Maury & Donnelly, of Baltimore, State agents for Maryland.

Mr. Robert J. Newman, after seventeen years' service with the Hanover Fire of New York as assistant secretary and as one of its agency directors, has resigned to become a member of the local agency firm of Messrs. Newman & MacBlain. This firm represents the Atlanta-Birmingham, Lumber of New York, Teutonia and Ben Franklin of Allegheny, and the Metropolitan of Chicago. Mr. Elmer E. Cain takes Mr. Newman's place, in charge of the local department of the Hanover.

Ex-Insurance Superintendent Webb McNall, of Kansas, is not meeting with much encouragement in his canvass for the Republican nomination for his old office. McNall was formerly a Republican, but he deserted his party for the Populists in 1896. He is opposed now by all the insurance interests in the State, and the indications point to the nomination of C. W. Barnes in the Republican State convention which meets at Topeka on May 2.

Mr. Edward E. Paschall will be at the head of the office soon to be opened in Atlanta, Ga., by the general fire insurance agency of E. G. Seibels, of Columbia, S. C. Mr. Paschall, although a Southerner, has been some years in the Canada field. The Seibels agency is manager for the South of the New Hampshire Fire, Rochester German and other high class companies.

Mr. Charles F. Shaw, only son of President Shaw, of the Hanover Fire insurance company, died at Ridgewood, N. J., Monday morning of tuber-

culosis. He had been connected with the Hanover several years, but was stricken with typhoid fever last summer, and it was followed by the disease which resulted fatally.

Mr. J. C. Goldwire, a Birmingham, Ala., insurance man, died in St. Vincent's Hospital in that city April 2, as the result of injuries received by being struck by a Louisville and Nashville train near Boyles. He was forty-eight years of age, and senior member of the insurance firm of J. C. Goldwire & Co.

Mr. Osborne Howes, secretary of the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters, and consul in that city for Japan, is off to the land of chrysanthemums and cherry blossoms for three months or so. During his absence Assistant Secretary F. E. Cabot will act as scribe for the board.

Mr. E. A. Sweatt, an Oklahoma City, Okla., agent for the State Mutual Life of Worcester, was shot and killed March 27 by Knox Prince when about 10 miles west of Elk City, as the result of an altercation. Sweatt was thirty-two years of age and highly respected.

Insurance Commissioner Host is credited with a number of prospective jobs after leaving office next year. He is said to be considering a $12,000 offer, and to assist in merging some insurance companies on the Pacific Coast. He is also invited to lecture.

Mr. W. A. Terrell, special agent at Atlanta, Ga. for fifteen years for the Mutual Life of New York, has announced the severance of his connection with that company to go with the J. S. Cameron agency, managing the Sun Life.

Messrs. Field & Cowles, of Boston, have accepted the underwriting agency for the Columbia insurance company of Jersey City for the insuring of automobiles against fire, explosion, lightning, derailment and theft.

Mr. Miles M. Dawson, the consulting actuary, addressed the students of the University of Michigan Tuesday last at Ann Arbor on "The Work and Recommendations of the Armstrong Committee."

Mr. Dana Blackmar, for some time past assistant secretary of the Georgia Home, has been elected vice president of the company to succeed the late Judge J. M. McNeiu.

Mr. W. M. Wright, a well known special agent and adjuster for various Pittsburgh insurance companies, died April 3 at his home at Allegheny, aged fifty-eight years.

Mr. John Napier has been elected secretary of the Bankers Life of New York. He formerly was associated with the American Union Life in a similar capacity.

Mr. William B. Wolfe, vice president of the Western insurance company of Pittsburgh, Pa., died from pneumonia April 4 at his home there, aged fifty years.

Mr. M. J. Nowlan, assistant secretary of the Union of Philadelphia, has been elected second vice president, in recognition of his long and faithful service.

Mr. Stewart L. Marks, for some time actuary of the Liability Conference, is now actuary of the Southern States Mutual Life of Charleston, W. Va.

Messrs. James W. Alexander and James H. Hyde have been dropped from the board of managers of the Delaware and Hudson Company of New York.

Insurance Commissioner E. Myron Wolfe, of California, has been appointed for his third term of four years by Governor Pardee.

Mr. Wilbur P. Dayton has relinquished the general agency of the John Hancock for Vermont and New Hampshire.

Mr. John T. Bruce, a prominent Cleveland, Ohio, adjuster and appraiser, died March 27 at his home there, aged fifty-four years.

Mr. Charles E. Phelps, of Chicago, has been appointed advertising manager of the Equitable Life, succeeding F. F. Edwards.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

DES MOINES, Ia., April 9.—The Thirty-first General Assembly of Iowa adjourned sine die Friday evening. Following is a summary of the laws passed relating to insurance of general interest:

In relation to the investment of funds of life insurance companies and associations.

To repeal Chapter 65 acts of the Twenty-eighth General Assembly, relating to stipulated life companies.

To amend Section 1,689 of the Code, relating to mutual insurance companies, providing that from and after July 4, 1906, no company shall be organized upon the mutual plan under the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of transacting the business specified in subdivisions 1 and 4 of Section 1,709 of the supplement to the Code.

To repeal Section 1,737 of the Code, and enact in lieu thereof the following: The Auditor of State shall annually, as soon as practicable after the first of March, publish in two newspapers of general circulation a statement made up from the annual report of every insurance company of the character provided for in this chapter and doing business in this State, whether organized under the laws of this or any other State, which statement shall contain a synopsis of the company's annual report, and shall show that the company has in all respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance and is authorized to transact business in the State. One publication as above contemplated shall be made at the seat of government, and in case of companies organized in this State and located elsewhere than in Des Moines, the other shall be made in the county in which the home office of the company is located. The fee for such publication shall be $6, which shall be paid to the Auditor of State at the time and in the manner provided for in Section 1,752 of the supplement to the Code, and shall be by him paid to the papers making the publication, upon receipt of a bill for the same, together with an affidavit by the publisher or foreman showing that such publication has been properly made, the same to be filed within thirty days from date of such publication."

To create a legislative commission to examine the subject of all insurance and the practice of all insurance companies doing business in this State, and revise the insurance laws and provide a uniform standard policy for life and fire insurance companies, and report their findings and recommendations to the next General Assembly. The commission to carry out the provisions of this act are Senators James H. Jamison of Osceola, George W. Dunham of Manchester, and Representatives N. E. Kendall of Albia, F. F. Jones of Villisca and Tim C. Clary of New Hampton.

To exempt accumulations and funds of fraternals from taxation.

Providing that life insurance companies may transact health, accident and employers' liability insurance.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., April 10.—The Insurance Committee had a lively hearing today over the petition of Mr. Mellen of Worcester for the appointment of a special commission for revision of the insurance laws. He said that he was not satisfied with the commission now sitting, and said he was not sure that there was not undesirable connection with certain insurance interests, and he was "laying low" for their report. He denied a suggestion of Chairman Parker of the committee that he was trying to get a commission satisfactory to himself, but said that he was suspicious that Senator Lodge's man Dryden was manipulating the commission appointed by the Governor.

Mr. Gannett of Providence made a savage attack upon the Columbian National Life insurance company of Boston, saying that it sadly needed investigation. Vice President Ganse of the company defended it warmly, saying that the Massachusetts Insurance Commissioner found no fault with its way of doing business; that the company was perfectly solvent; that its rates were reasonable, and that the policyholders were amply protected.

Mississippi.

JACKSON, Miss., April 9.—The amended fire marshal bill of Mr. Alcorn, House File 316, has passed that body by a vote of 57 to 33. The fire marshal in the amended bill is the Insurance Commissioner. It is probable that the bill will not become a law.

The Senate in committee of the whole has been considering the insurance chapter already passed by the House. The provision regarding the Insurance Commissioner's salary is the

only bone of contention. This was fixed at $3,500 by the House, to take effect at once. The Senate wants the salary to begin in 1908.

New Jersey.

Assemblyman Martin's bill, House File 498, taxing life insurance companies on the full amount of their property, passed both houses.

The bill of Mr. McKee, Senate No. 326, regarding the incorporation of insurance companies, passed that body.

TRENTON, N. J., April 13.—The Legislature adjourned at 3 o'clock this morning.

Among the important business effected by the Senate was the adoption of resolutions for the appointment of a Senate committee of three members to investigate all insurance conditions in New Jersey, and report to the next Legislature such remedial legislation as it may deem wise. The president of the Senate is to name the members of this committee.

The resolutions, which were adopted unanimously, are as follows:

Whereas, An exhaustive investigation of the business of life insurance has recently been made by a committee of the Legislature of the State of New York, said investigation extending as well to companies organized without the State of New York but doing business in said State as to those organized under the laws thereof, and including companies organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey; and,

Whereas, Said New York Legislative Committee has made a full report of its investigation and recommended numerous changes in the insurance laws of the State of New York, based upon the information obtained by said investigation, and has reported a number of bills to the Legislature of the said State, which are now pending therein; and,

Whereas, the legislatures of various other States have under consideration the revision of their insurance laws, and some of them have appointed commissions to sit during the recess of the Legislature for the purpose of examining the bills pending in the Legislature of the State of New York and any law that may be passed by the said Legislature, as well as the bills proposed in other States to the end that uniformity of legislation in the various States on the subject of insurance may, so far as possible, be accomplished; therefore be it

Resolved, That a committee consisting of three members of the Senate be appointed by the President of the Senate to examine the report of the said investigation made by the committee of the Legislature of New York, as well as the bills presented by said committee, and any laws that may be enacted by the said Legislature on the subject of life insurance, and also the bills presented to and laws enacted by the legislatures of other States on the subject of life insurance, and to report at the next session of the Legislature such recommendations with regard to changes in the insurance laws of this State as they may deem proper, together with bills for the accomplishment thereof; and be it

Further Resolved, That the said committee have authority to examine the records and files of the Department of Banking and Insurance of this State, relating as well to banks and trust companies as to insurance companies, and also to call upon life insurance companies, banks and trust companies existing under the laws of this State or doing business in this State for such further information as they may deem necessary for the purpose aforesaid; and be it

Further Resolved, That said committee be authorized to procure a copy of the report of the said committee of the Legislature of the State of New York, and also copies of the bills reported by said committee, and of any laws that may be passed by the Legislature of the State of New York in pursuance of said investigation or relating to the subject of life insurance, and also copies of such other bills, reports or acts on the subject of life insurance from other States as they may deem important, and to employ counsel, stenographers and such other assistants as may be necessary for said investigation and report, and that all bills contracted by said committee be paid by the Treasurer of the State upon the warrant of the Comptroller, with the approval of the Governor.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 10.—The Senate passed unanimously and without debate two of the insurance bills, the one amending the general corporation law as to acquisition of real property by life insurance companies, the other amending the penal code so as to prohibit the giving of rebates.

Both bills have passed the Assembly and go now to Governor Higgins.

Senator Armstrong moved for final passage the bill, 966, amending the penal code relative to perjury so as to provide that the falsity of any statement alleged in an indictment shall be presumptively established by proof that the defendant has testified under oath to the contrary. Senator Grady objected to this change as imposing on the accused the burden of proving his innocence. He moved to recommit the bill to the committee with instructions to strike out the enacting clause. After a long debate he was defeated by a vote of ayes 20, noes 27. Republicans voting with the Democrats to recommit were: Allds, Cassidy, Gates, Goodsell, Hill, L'Hommedieu, Malby, Smith and Raines.

Senator Grady then moved an amendment to restrict the application of the bill to written statements. The vote was a tie, 23 to 23, and Lieutenant Governor Bruce, presiding, cast his vote in the affirmative, adopting the amendment. He explained his vote by saying that the amendment would clarify the bill and would not endanger the legislation.

Senator Smith offered another amendment to confine the application of the measure to statements made "upon his own knowledge." Senator Armstrong said it would destroy the purpose of the bill, and if it was adopted the committee would withdraw the bill and place the responsibility on the Senate for legislating on this subject. The amendment was lost by a vote of ayes 13, noes 29.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 12.—In the Assembly today Mr. Smith's bill to prevent fire insurance companies from entering into or maintaining pools, trusts, conspiracies or agreements to control rates of fire insurance was reported favorably by the Insurance Committee and placed on order of second reading.

ALBANY, April 12.—By unanimous action the Senate and Assembly today passed three more of the special insurance bills which were framed by the investigating committee, and also the new bill introduced last week providing that a policyholder in a stock insurance corporation may become a director therein whether or not he is a stockholder. That bill is intended to affect the Equitable Life.

In addition to these four, the Assembly, after defeating several proposed amendments, passed the "big bill," generally amending the insurance law, and sent it to the Senate for concurrence. The bills passed include the one relating to political contributions by corporations; the one which was amended by adding the word "knowingly" and related to reports made by insurance officers or employees, and the bill relating to lobbying.

There remain two bills to be passed. One relates to the amendment of the Penal Code relative to perjury, over which there have been several hot battles, and the "big bill" amending the insurance law generally. The first was made a special order for Monday night. The latter was made a special order for next Wednesday, and it was agreed that the Senate should begin its session on that day an hour earlier.

The bills that went through today passed unanimously.

Mr. Palmer, of Schoharie, in the Assembly offered an amendment which provided that $50,000 should be the limit of salary that might be paid an official of an insurance company. It was defeated.

Mr. Cox made a fight in the cause of assessment companies, and offered several amendments which would give them certain rights they will not enjoy under the bills drawn by Mr. Hughes and his colleagues. All were voted down.

In the Assembly debate on the agents' commissions bill Messrs. Fish, of Madison, and Sammons, of Onondaga, pro-

posed an amendment which would postpone until 1908 Section 97, regulating agents' commissions, so far as it should affect agents of foreign companies. This was defeated by a rising vote of 18 to 41.

Mr. La Fetra, of New York, offered an amendment, which was to give the agents renewal commissions for fourteen years instead of nine, as proposed by the bills. The vote against this was ayes 17, noes 70.

Ohio.

Senators Ward, Berry and Mather and Representatives Pears, Stewart and Ritter compose the Legislative Commission appointed to codify the insurance laws.

Rhode Island.

PROVIDENCE, April 12.—The Senate has passed, in concurrence with the House, the bill requiring foreign fire insurance companies to have $100,000 capital, and prohibiting any company assuming a risk in excess of 10 per cent. of its capital.

South Carolina.

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 6.—The bill which passed the Legislature taxing fire insurance companies for the benefit of firemen has not yet been acted upon by the Governor. It has been referred to the Attorney General on a constitutional point.

Obituary.

Death of Henry H. Hall.

Henry H. Hall, fire underwriter in New York for the past forty years, ex-president of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, ex-president of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters and other fire insurance organizations, and at the time of his death president of the Victoria Fire of New York and senior member of the general agency firm of Hall & Henshaw, United States managers for the Union of London and Law Union and Crown of London, died suddenly from heart disease at his home at East Orange, N. J., on Monday. His health had been poor for some time, and he had recently abstained from active business, but his death was unexpected.

Mr. Hall was born in Boston in 1846. His first business experience was as a clerk in the Boston office of the Home of New York. He came to New York some years later, and was, in 1869, elected secretary of the old National Fire insurance company. Subsequently he was appointed United States branch manager of the Northern of London, which position he resigned in 1889 to form the present important agency house of Hall & Henshaw.

His activities as an underwriter placed him in many prominent official positions, and he presided over the New York local board in 1886 and 1887, and was president of the National Board in 1903-4. He was also president of the Underwriters' Salvage Company. He served on many committees of fire insurance bodies, and was always a leader. A tribute to Mr. Hall's personality will be found on our editorial page. He was the most genial and lovable of men, and universally respected in the business for his ability and high character. A wife and five children survive him.

At a special meeting of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters held to take action on the death of Mr. Hall, held on Tuesday, addresses were made by Henry W. Eaton, Charles Lyman Case, E. R. Kennedy, George W. Babb, E. F. Beddall, Marshall S. Driggs and Francis C. Moore, ex-president of the Continental insurance company.

The following resolutions, offered by Charles Lyman Case, chairman of the special committee, were unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That in the death of Henry H. Hall this board has sustained a great loss.

"Mr. Hall was distinguished not only by an unusually constant and keen sense of loyal obligation to the especial interests that he served, but also by a steady, active devotion to whatever tended toward the improvement of the general conditions of our business. No pains, no obstacles were too great to interfere with his enthusiastic efforts to do everything in his power to improve in a large and permanent way the interests of fire insurance, of which he was at once a faithful student and an able master, and to which he was so heartily devoted not only in New York but throughout our country.

"His genial personality, his cordial friendliness, his high minded attitude toward all business affairs, his invariable willingness to do his share of the general work, and, above all, his noble character, will always be held in lively and grateful remembrance by his associates in this board.

"Resolved, That the president appoint a delegation to represent this board by their attendance at Mr. Hall's funeral, and that the president also appoint a committee to procure a suitable portrait of Mr. Hall, to be placed upon the walls of the board room.

"Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon the records of this board, and that a copy be sent to Mr. Hall's family."

The funeral services were held at East Orange on Thursday afternoon.

Miscellany.

American Life Insurance Companies Discussed in the British House of Lords.

The *Review*, London, contains the following report of the references to American life insurance companies in the House of Lords, which is more in detail than the brief cable dispatch which was recently printed here:

In the House of Lords on Tuesday, March 27, the Earl of Onslow called attention to the recent disclosures as to the management of certain insurance companies in the United States having branch offices in this country, and to the laws of other countries and colonies affecting foreign insurance companies carrying on business there, and asked his Majesty's Government whether they would take any steps to require that foreign companies carrying on business in England should keep in this country such proportion of their assets as would suffice to meet claims that might be made on them by English policyholders. They had had cases in this country where great trusts had been carried on with effects disastrous to those who had entrusted their money to them, and he was not going to say, because he saw a mote in the eye of the American companies, that there was no beam in the eye of John Bull. Nor was he going to suggest that any of the American companies carrying on business in this country were not solvent. He should regret if the result of any discussion in that House were to cause those who had policies in the American companies to throw them up in panic in the fear that they would not get full value for their money. Even in the worst companies into which inquiry had been made where the assets had been "scaled" down to the very lowest, it had been shown that, in addition to the face value of the policies, there was a reserve of twelve and a half million for unassigned surplus fund—that was the system of deferred bonuses.

The three great American companies carrying on business in this country were the New York Life, the Mutual and the Equitable. These three companies had absolute possession of money or property to the extent of two hundred millions sterling. They had a ready cash surplus of almost forty millions, which was greater than the combined capital of the national banks of England, Russia, France and Germany. On the last day of 1903 they had two hundred and twenty-seven millions of assets, and their business was increasing so rapidly that it was estimated that at 50 per cent. of the

(*Continued on page* 285.)

Life Insurance Business in Colorado in 1905.

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna	261	$439,329	1,557	$3,276,124	$127,466	$11,000
B'nk'rs Res've, Neb	25	71,000	108	336,500	13,048	2,500
Capitol, Col	378	1,648,000	363	1,595,000	64,053	------
Central, Des Moines	232	479,725	341	670,725	26,540	4,000
Chicago Life	3	8,500	24	66,000	2,619	------
Colorado National	759	2,263,591	759	2,263,591	89,745	------
Columbian National	3	8,000	5	23,000	450	------
Conservative, Cal	333	613,243	868	1,966,938	87,817	25,450
Des Moines, Ia	9	15,860	160	233,360	9,211	7,500
Equitable, N. Y	484	1,122,011	3,144	9,030,768	326,181	131,742
Fidelity Mutual	48	167,903	376	1,166,518	46,846	8,000
Franklin, Ill	12	14,094	75	114,274	3,647	2,271
Germania	214	311,354	1,152	1,895,158	86,394	25,058
Hartford	159	171,300	1,059	1,413,346	43,724	16,000
Home, N. Y	110	219,108	523	1,231,109	49,175	18,672
Manhattan	174	229,920	579	911,104	33,845	11,500
Mass. Mutual	89	210,299	593	1,467,018	57,792	17,467
Mutual Benefit	227	626,469	1,383	3,977,313	156,288	79,310
Mutual Life, N. Y.	864	1,510,492	6,253	15,410,333	441,980	203,226
National, Vt	122	271,675	477	1,052,136	40,080	3,000
National U. S. A.	95	151,007	466	555,920	36,695	------
New Eng. Mutual	63	177,367	684	2,129,608	72,336	9,020
New York Life	1,678	2,953,835	8,494	18,645,845	708,753	196,605
Northw'n Mutual	506	1,047,413	5,448	14,161,184	483,207	123,121
Pacific Mutual	1,986	1,239,682	1,867	2,353,892	91,522	19,229
Penn Mutual	126	437,391	1,233	4,523,235	184,389	71,400
Phœnix Mutual	130	215,104	689	1,147,995	44,239	13,288
Prov. L. and T	125	271,728	295	808,857	44,883	6,537
Provident Savings	185	381,392	565	1,689,058	57,957	27,344
Prudential (Ind.)	13,097	2,069,134	34,246	4,871,010	178,929	41,360
Prudential (Ord.)	965	946,779	3,191	3,691,619	139,737	33,099
Reliance	82	142,850	83	144,850	5,890	------
Security L. & A	6	28,500	6	28,500	167	------
Security Mutual	32	50,932	102	184,184	6,890	4,000
Security T. & L	33	55,500	242	619,662	25,806	3,948
State Life, Ind	772	3,232,341	1,085	4,130,022	94,319	------
Travelers	99	191,330	674	2,232,647	64,584	36,422
Union Central	265	787,890	827	1,805,472	82,011	12,800
Union Mutual	117	202,308	610	1,012,110	35,382	2,670
Washington	67	71,800	348	545,674	20,254	25,936
Totals, 1905	24,935	$25,056,156	80,954	$113,381,659	$4,084,851	$1,193,473
" 1904	24,426	23,168,945	74,962	107,332,268	3,848,213	1,135,048
" 1903	23,731	23,148,521	65,945	98,947,811	3,662,738	1,082,708
" 1902	19,963	21,048,237	56,705	89,148,397	3,290,151	793,025
" 1901	16,050	18,676,013	46,255	77,928,280	2,873,350	972,911
" 1900	15,630	15,549,296	40,482	70,171,171	2,298,432	790,922
" 1899	13,058	14,889,961	34,599	63,302,380	2,054,097	883,478
" 1898	9,703	11,804,025	28,860	56,251,741	1,708,935	486,084
" 1897	6,328	9,629,726	23,750	50,378,748	1,589,499	438,779
" 1896	6,978	10,287,148	22,315	48,690,333	1,538,034	466,175
" 1895	8,306	9,873,207	21,120	47,214,955	1,487,305	491,526
" 1894	3,450	10,338,345	14,217	45,507,498	1,515,732	570,248

Life Insurance Business in Montana in 1905.

(Compiled from a Statement by the State Auditor.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna	25	$61,125	281	$713,065	$29,077	$2,000
Bankers, Iowa	236	460,000	2,384	4,768,000	38,340	36,000
Central Life, Iowa	185	557,000	169	498,500	20,891	------
Capitol, Col	8	25,500	8	25,500	609	------
Continental	289	695,300	520	1,817,300	64,811	10,128
Equitable	316	655,661	2,771	6,885,480	235,468	45,018
Germania	231	396,039	835	1,918,271	80,818	24,886
Home Life	5	5,800	31	53,700	2,614	------
Mutual, New York	315	694,915	2,526	7,649,559	286,069	67,283
Metropolitan (Ord.)	744	441,749	974	669,922	*70,366	6,500
Metropolitan (Ind.)	3,089	618,894	6,583	1,264,224	------	7,778
Mutual Benefit	244	503,016	446	911,984	32,844	3,000
Minnesota Mutual	26	60,425	142	374,286	11,460	4,000
National, Vt	393	683,773	700	1,379,316	57,433	6,500
National U. S. A.	159	308,212	294	550,523	19,425	3,000
New York Life	475	1,050,923	3,981	10,387,022	372,660	124,276
Northwestern Mut.	290	720,600	1,871	5,241,475	191,510	43,210
Pacific Mutual	15	48,054	102	134,413	5,027	5,000
Penn Mutual	81	424,007	211	709,331	25,685	5,038
Prudential	124	202,054	210	341,214	18,354	1,150
Provident Savings	7	22,825	92	402,289	10,030	------
Security T. & L	20	59,500	21	61,500	3,036	------
State Life, Ind	69	297,500	238	961,000	30,088	------
Travelers	----	------	15	48,500	56	2,000
Union Central	90	236,500	393	864,666	25,016	1,000
United States	35	57,500	226	382,500	6,628	1,000
Washington	106	220,200	487	853,703	42,114	13,055
Totals, 1905	7,577	$9,507,072	26,511	$49,867,243	$1,680,429	$411,822
" 1904	8,830	11,752,440	24,973	47,299,610	1,600,178	270,960
" 1903	----	8,312,023	21,139	40,539,055	1,334,810	316,764

*Includes Industrial.

Fire Insurance Business in Illinois in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Statement by the Superintendent of Insurance.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Stock Companies of Illinois.			
Calumet, Chicago	$2,927,947	$35,650	$1,680
Forest City, Rockford	12,104,889	163,306	45,549
German, Freeport, Ill	60,675,694	666,323	249,284
German Fire, Peoria	11,350,925	153,575	66,978
German National, Chicago	12,419,292	164,126	46,821
Ins. Co. of State of Ill., Rockford	13,614,654	194,465	59,251
Metropolitan Fire, Chicago	3,337,032	35,480	17,411
Traders, Chicago	18,981,410	253,180	83,800
Totals	$135,411,843	$1,666,105	$570,774
Stock Companies of Other States.			
Aetna, Hartford	$45,999,377	$513,319	$182,456
Agricultural, Watertown	8,962,500	104,656	43,645
Allegheny, Allegheny	1,241,978	23,466	10,898
Allemannia Fire, Pittsburgh	3,207,997	47,117	14,455
Alliance, Philadelphia	3,942,767	34,111	8,306
American, Newark	48,155,308	690,149	261,765
American, Boston	3,913,470	45,831	22,864
American Central, St. Louis	12,632,976	168,248	83,705
American Fire, Philadelphia	11,718,255	117,776	49,552
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	1,880,883	52,228	30,803
Armenia, Pittsburgh	1,233,836	15,374	9,532
Assurance Co. of America, N. Y	3,275,760	29,973	21,531
Atlanta-Birmingham, Atlanta	2,653,622	52,041	24,435
Ben Franklin, Allegheny	3,466,831	40,841	16,741
Boston, Boston	4,129,094	32,364	14,866
British-American, New York	1,796,711	23,379	14,560
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	3,868,870	48,557	25,932
Buffalo German, Buffalo	8,059,703	88,151	39,445
Camden Fire, Camden, N. J	2,622,111	41,861	22,249
Capital Fire, Concord	887,895	10,178	------
Citizens, St. Louis	11,360,791	158,000	84,946
City of New York, New York	1,645,462	21,604	2,216
Colonial, New York	2,771,701	46,539	22,578
Colonial, Washington	598,952	7,083	3,319
Columbia, Jersey City	334,905	1,449	4,682
Commerce, Albany	2,438,893	27,681	18,432
Commercial Union Fire, N. Y	1,763,743	23,908	8,888
Commonwealth, New York	4,686,423	43,950	11,619
Concordia Fire, Milwaukee	7,609,004	104,834	63,694
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	26,162,201	338,374	151,666
Continental, New York	35,771,060	432,023	210,190
County Fire, Philadelphia	2,682,247	30,187	10,951
Delaware, Philadelphia	8,777,671	102,066	47,222
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	5,893,925	56,040	26,411
Dubuque Fire and Marine, Dubuque	2,921,410	49,016	26,050
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	1,520,595	22,887	12,161
Eagle Fire, New York	3,873,003	49,325	3,412
Eastern, Atlantic City	2,169,618	31,760	12,184
Equitable F. and M., Providence	6,418,176	79,052	43,007
Eureka Fire and Marine, Cincinnati	1,616,263	19,668	8,448
Farmers and Merchants, Lincoln	5,421,748	55,601	35,288
Federal, Jersey City	4,375,432	38,246	14,142
Fire Asso. of Philadelphia	15,430,242	246,001	121,625
Firemen's, Newark	8,488,871	84,972	43,192
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	14,389,161	173,865	79,311
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	3,231,017	42,487	17,003
Georgia Home, Columbus	2,866,408	37,279	16,174
German Alliance, New York	6,805,411	94,359	37,209
German American, New York	18,302,663	237,212	108,030
German-American, Baltimore	------	------	------
German American, Pittsburgh	926,898	15,428	8,486
German Fire, Pittsburgh	3,547,210	45,861	29,997
German Fire, Indianapolis	3,579,932	48,126	32,257
German, Wheeling	1,190,564	20,617	7,548
Germania Fire, New York	21,505,725	306,451	119,533
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	6,637,416	82,327	43,607
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	16,935,041	159,357	72,126
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	6,538,039	111,437	33,727
Granite State, Portsmouth	------	------	------
Hamilton Fire, New York	1,510,577	19,757	5,202
Hanover Fire, New York	14,803,938	201,690	101,066
Hartford Fire, Hartford	69,131,607	930,465	481,349
Home, New York	68,908,449	682,364	408,136
Home F. and M., San Francisco	5,207,773	62,022	26,909
Humboldt, Allegheny	2,208,573	25,169	5,265
Indemnity Fire, New York	1,168,939	18,081	5,945
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	3,615,088	37,080	19,740
Insurance Company of N. America	45,615,520	389,449	244,104
Insurance Co. of State of Pa	1,968,790	33,008	12,705
Iowa Home, Dubuque	544,720	6,938	346
Jefferson Fire, Philadelphia	1,170,310	14,068	9,137
Liverpool & London & Globe, N. Y.	1,505,033	20,982	7,824
Louisville, Louisville	3,484,262	38,640	10,320
Lumbermen's, Philadelphia	3,302,479	47,173	17,773
Mechanics, Philadelphia	3,438,291	48,364	24,092
Mechanics and Traders, N. Orleans	2,890,625	32,944	14,177
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	1,524,523	21,598	12,785
Michigan Commercial, Lansing	1,966,679	23,342	5,140
Michigan Fire and Marine, Detroit	2,839,419	42,028	25,304
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	3,483,713	51,201	25,662
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	14,818,758	199,371	79,641
Monongahela, Pittsburgh	1,063,351	17,393	5,536
Nassau Fire, Brooklyn	2,641,559	27,246	17,633
National Fire, Hartford	42,769,453	462,397	138,888
National, Allegheny	4,701,615	83,809	27,637
National Fire and Marine, Elizabeth	541,840	10,052	4,359

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
National Lumber, Buffalo	------	------	------
National Union Fire, Pittsburgh	8,664,879	102,189	38,663
Newark Fire, Newark	4,072,381	55,654	10,067
New Brunswick Fire, New Brunswick	294,679	6,877	2,631
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	8,421,014	90,971	45,820
New York Fire, New York	3,875,457	44,986	23,077
Niagara Fire, New York	12,136,887	159,177	73,637
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	1,422,597	16,218	1,082
Northern, New York	3,251,846	48,140	23,456
North German Fire, New York	7,567,394	109,859	39,648
North River, New York	6,494,061	74,280	23,061
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	21,644,664	217,934	77,067
Orient, Hartford	8,920,277	113,819	31,492
Pacific Fire, New York	2,028,256	22,168	9,658
Pelican, New York	1,555,169	23,463	19,030
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	11,927,584	152,799	75,461
Peter Cooper, New York	1,738,252	25,322	14,685
Phenix, Brooklyn	49,769,767	738,892	321,666
Phœnix, Hartford	20,752,054	235,460	74,857
Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh	1,443,413	21,982	8,690
Providence-Washington, Providence	12,489,602	152,961	66,339
Queen, New York	14,791,331	208,749	111,203
Queen City Fire, Sioux Falls, S. D.	873,683	12,792	2,846
Reliance, Philadelphia	8,417,795	98,073	49,705
Rochester German, Rochester	7,643,537	113,121	49,560
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	18,097,405	165,106	67,181
Security, New Haven	19,092,186	206,295	77,922
Security Fire, Baltimore	8,976,525	98,909	27,804
Security, Cincinnati	1,616,263	19,668	8,448
Shawnee Fire, Topeka	1,014,164	15,187	3,235
Springfield F. & M., Springfield, Mass.	22,344,251	294,354	152,053
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	8,229,388	151,563	49,646
Star Fire, Louisville	457,863	15,293	5,688
Stuyvesant, New York	1,963,335	23,204	10,153
Teutonia, Allegheny	894,594	11,716	3,194
Teutonia, New Orleans	2,903,406	34,972	21,098
Union, Buffalo	1,264,135	14,540	4,396
Union, Philadelphia	2,457,283	26,010	17,388
United American, Milwaukee	1,050,327	9,360	495
United Firemens, Philadelphia	3,850,427	57,968	30,547
United States Fire, New York	2,204,890	26,331	13,841
Virginia Fire and Marine, Richmond.	4,471,812	47,041	26,963
Virginia State, Richmond	1,358,008	24,097	5,035
Westchester Fire, New York	11,601,340	151,063	54,965
Western, Pittsburgh	2,700,200	31,178	13,327
Western Reserve, Cleveland	777,341	11,345	55
Williamsburgh City Fire, Brooklyn	4,565,568	68,099	23,842
Totals	$1,093,751,031	$13,520,500	$6,036,655
Foreign Companies.			
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$6,371,758	$91,093	$34,623
Alliance, London	3,618,290	34,696	12,507
Atlas, London	9,013,571	118,097	37,376
British America, Toronto	9,828,870	128,610	50,208
Caledonian, Edinburgh	6,438,482	97,918	35,315
Cologne Reinsurance, Cologne	2,946,584	40,524	17,093
Commercial Union, London	23,367,823	230,845	110,707
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	9,552,440	136,725	67,338
Law Union and Crown, London	1,355,657	15,744	6,853
Liverpool and London and Globe	36,745,204	467,245	165,622
London Assurance Corporation	10,720,802	127,331	64,251
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	14,381,877	182,329	70,158
Moscow Fire, Moscow	4,404,826	67,584	28,699
Munich, Munich	20,667,903	314,626	162,996
Northern, London	16,346,258	239,530	100,628
North British and Mercantile, London.	21,680,069	272,714	113,880
Norwich Union, Norwich	10,414,973	148,603	65,574
Palatine, London	9,215,299	121,327	43,639
Phœnix, London	10,787,140	146,826	68,842
Prussian National, Stettin	12,132,723	101,382	43,968
Rossia, St. Petersburg	11,552,035	166,062	53,222
Royal, Liverpool	29,200,223	394,548	199,480
Royal Exchange, London	6,281,772	92,804	45,889
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	9,519,233	133,369	54,463
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh.	10,972,151	147,642	61,846
Skandia, Gothenburg	5,349,409	83,176	52,446
State, Liverpool	932,544	14,085	9,012
Sun, London	13,437,666	174,104	64,118
Svea, Gothenburg	3,708,246	54,025	29,237
Transatlantic Fire, Hamburg	4,803,430	63,646	29,249
Union, London	5,871,973	87,907	48,403
Western, Toronto	14,949,868	153,564	84,499
Totals	$356,569,118	$4,648,685	$2,039,177
Mutual Companies of Illinois.			
Addison Farmers' Mutual, Addison	$809,766	$6,905	$5,113
Coal Operators' Mutual, Springfield	2,612,983	34,421	6,210
Ill. Mut. Fire Underwriters, Chicago.	532,425	4,568	3,391
Lumbermen's Mutual, Chicago	1,050,688	7,850	5,625
Millers' Mutual Fire, Alton	4,827,913	151,979	71,861
Millers' National, Chicago	1,860,769	64,601	50,226
Mill Owners' Mutual, Chicago	1,418,375	14,327	151
National Mutual Church, Chicago	3,284,603	12,993	5,146
Protection Mutual, Chicago	2,213,739	21,233	160
Retail Merchants, Springfield	6,787,988	51,857	33,750
Totals	$25,399,249	$370,734	$181,632
Mutual Companies of Other States.			
Central Mfg. Mutual, Van Wert, O.	$1,624,635	$20,738	$6,159
Cotton and Woolen Mfrs., Boston	4,122,566	38,204	109
Farmers' Fire, York, Pa	3,438,603	39,425	16,812
Grain Dealers' National, Indianapolis.	341,700	19,530	19,298
Indiana Millers' Mutual, Indianapolis.	621,900	14,496	3,741
Industrial Mutual, Boston	2,881,852	25,573	95
Keystone Mutual, Philadelphia	2,035,070	19,495	114
Manton Mutual, Philadelphia	1,581,358	14,842	87
Mercantile Mutual, Providence	2,066,796	19,919	65
Michigan Millers' Mutual, Lansing	1,342,487	26,578	26,246
Ohio Millers Mutual, Canton	231,550	11,296	1,291
Philadelphia Manufacturers, Phila	2,704,005	22,374	98
Retail Hardware Dealers', Minneapolis	118,450	1,691	------
Rubber Manufacturers, Boston	3,903,510	36,911	168
Totals	$27,014,482	$311,072	$74,283
Grand Totals, 1905	$1,638,145,703	$20,517,095	$8,902,520
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	1,482,414,408	18,951,920	8,796,200
1903	1,293,428,999	16,597,935	7,980,304
1902	1,441,981,156	17,180,987	8,636,223
1901	1,290,705,379	14,849,045	8,010,447
1900	1,292,165,890	14,460,319	7,720,513
1899	1,168,017,966	13,056,119	8,518,255
1898	1,046,822,043	11,927,507	8,026,369
1897	1,059,711,518	12,439,908	6,051,630
1896	988,482,335	12,137,705	6,267,111
1895	973,295,739	12,046,275	6,003,583
1894	946,661,753	11,805,170	6,907,974
1893	1,000,857,380	11,916,597	6,571,080
1892	1,017,559,758	11,893,952	4,038,214
1891	899,660,472	10,337,551	5,041,033
1880 to 1890	7,626,877,678	84,631,985	36,614,305

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 49.3. The percentage in 1905 was 43.8.

Fire Insurance Business in New York in 1905.

(Compiled from a Report by the Superintendent of Insurance.)

COMPANIES.	Fire Premiums Received.	Fire Losses Paid,	Fire Losses Incurred.	Excess of Fire Premiums Received Over Fire Losses Incurred.	Risks Written. Fire.	Risks Written. Marine and Inland.
Agricultural	$346,960	$135,298	$140,143	$206,817	$41,046,300	------
Albany	127,985	58,285	59,770	68,215	13,054,662	------
As. Co. Amer.	121,249	52,855	59,204	62,045	13,902,246	------
British Amer.	85,215	29,179	31,621	53,594	9,499,506	------
Buffalo Com.	72,798	29,529	29,895	42,902	10,514,660	------
Buffalo Ger.	144,892	60,633	61,739	83,153	24,578,665	------
Caled'n Am.	14,733	946	4,955	9,778	1,683,932	------
City of N. Y.	75,740	4,825	12,696	63,044	10,575,238	------
Colonial	115,147	50,041	57,294	57,853	10,106,178	------
Commerce	73,983	31,105	32,536	41,448	10,008,082	------
Com'c'l Un'n.	49,877	23,220	25,210	24,666	5,827,666	------
Com'nwealth	109,237	31,624	38,480	70,757	15,929,812	------
Continental	1,029,204	482,958	475,111	554,093	144,436,589	------
Dutchess	190,759	106,065	102,353	88,407	16,982,401	------
Eagle	94,674	14,782	28,414	66,260	10,042,681	------
Emp. City F.	83,134	38,249	40,419	42,685	13,130,435	------
Germ. Allian.	149,628	72,934	72,622	77,005	18,733,981	------
Germ. Amer.	1,333,125	594,184	603,285	729,841	212,769,033	------
Germania Fire	508,802	232,336	227,116	281,685	78,585,162	------
Glens Falls	302,247	109,203	117,182	185,065	43,274,714	------
Globe & Rutg.	504,643	290,673	298,707	205,936	35,343,000	------
Hamilton F.	45,242	27,208	34,942	10,300	3,753,253	------
Hanover Fire.	838,657	508,120	528,922	309,735	103,898,086	------
Home	2,082,409	1,084,802	1,080,624	1,001,785	318,846,929	$78,531,037
Indemnity F.	28,055	11,369	16,396	11,659	3,060,980	------
Liv. & L. & G.	194	120	120	74	25,000	------
Lumber	27,338	2,023	2,023	25,315	1,936,188	------
Nassau Fire	154,024	53,938	67,427	86,598	19,796,213	------
Nat. Lumber.	2,832	------	------	2,832	183,100	------
N. Y. Fire	127,413	49,988	59,763	67,650	16,338,860	------
Niagara Fire.	596,773	254,577	270,364	326,409	70,799,988	------
N. Brit. & M.	54,823	23,208	20,745	34,078	8,926,968	------
Northern	150,371	69,971	79,518	70,853	17,435,382	------
North German	94,024	41,133	45,950	48,073	11,132,580	------
North River	378,174	125,304	144,683	233,491	46,089,172	------
Pacific Fire	111,187	48,259	54,266	56,921	9,853,407	------
Pelican	76,228	31,624	34,164	42,063	9,944,028	------
Peter Cooper.	82,348	26,961	31,265	51,083	11,174,629	------
Phenix	790,469	328,826	332,905	457,564	105,966,618	------
Queen	340,861	135,068	129,376	211,485	44,744,919	------
Rochester Ger.	130,134	56,798	57,108	73,026	14,247,782	------
Stuyvesant	124,797	64,560	76,314	48,483	9,561,000	------
Union Fire	46,715	15,658	18,738	27,976	7,345,812	------
United States.	160,135	46,290	62,257	97,879	22,045,318	------
Victoria Fire.	9,999	17,498	14,394	*------	1,272,741	------
Westchester	495,304	230,928	229,696	265,608	65,273,867	------
Will'sburgh	342,238	163,758	173,054	169,184	53,257,448	------
Totals	12,824,774	$5,866,915	$6,083,797	$6,745,372	1,716,935,211	$78,531,037

COMPANIES.	Fire Premiums Received	Fire Losses Paid.	Fire Losses Incurred.	Excess of Fire Premiums Received Over Fire Losses Incurred.	Risks Written. Fire.	Risks Written. Marine and Inland.
Mutual Cos. of N. Y.						
Glen Cove....	$25,793	$11,229	$11,229	$14,564	$10,479,203	------
Harmonia ...	11,044	5,490	5,529	5,515	1,696,123	------
Mutual Fire..	8,506	3,044	3,044	5,463	1,276,023	------
Richmond Co.	3,191	2,876	4,901	------	1,022,411	------
Suffolk Co...	7,946	9,762	9,762	------	4,075,920	------
Totals	$56,479	$32,401	$34,465	$25,541	$18,549,680	------
Joint Stock Cos. of Other States.						
Ætna	$1,020,691	$359,369	$342,330	$678,360	$126,700,812	$61,555,288
Allemania ...	99,761	38,716	40,139	59,622	10,849,623	------
Alliance, Pa..	68,324	7,604	9,501	58,823	9,460,974	------
Amer., Mass..	96,672	49,813	48,626	48,016	12,839,465	------
Amer., N. J..	213,918	106,529	111,161	102,757	28,326,406	------
Amer. Central	247,628	124,133	127,168	120,460	29,047,805	------
American, Pa.	221,445	123,406	129,112	92,334	31,190,821	------
Atlanta-Birm..	70,325	51,968	52,014	18,311	7,734,947	------
Ben Franklin.	67,496	15,604	24,560	42,936	5,492,062	------
Boston, Mass.	271,643	108,983	127,254	144,388	32,417,550	44,606,499
Calumet, Ill..	37,128	3,869	6,798	30,330	4,490,754	------
Camden, N. J.	177,588	64,374	79,565	98,023	15,610,545	------
Capital, N. H.	79,739	33,182	37,581	42,158	10,084,078	------
Citizens', Mo.	229,141	122,845	111,770	117,372	21,793,767	------
Colonial, D. C.	23,547	7,462	7,804	15,744	2,552,283	------
Colum., N. J..	------	------	------	------	------	15,149,867
Concordia ...	100,897	44,375	48,152	52,745	9,420,333	------
Connecticut ..	355,759	147,234	146,512	209,247	39,094,400	------
County, Phila.	59,429	14,783	15,615	43,814	7,360,846	------
Delaware, Pa.	97,155	53,724	52,759	44,396	9,937,256	------
Detroit	50,475	11,964	13,705	36,771	7,161,516	363,335
Dubuque	7,665	------	500	7,165	622,263	------
Eastern, N. J.	41,531	10,587	13,795	27,735	4,657,461	------
Equit. F. & M.	105,958	62,906	57,452	48,506	12,895,360	------
Fire As., Ph'a	427,469	202,947	212,639	214,831	48,419,340	------
Firemen's F'd	301,130	156,738	157,028	144,102	36,209,395	40,558,527
Fir'en's N, J.	264,706	113,751	115,592	149,114	46,964,531	------
Franklin, Pa.	127,166	42,959	43,762	83,404	14,680,146	------
Georgia Home	79,234	24,475	32,751	46,482	10,975,126	------
Ger. Am., Md.	52,278	16,262	21,012	31,266	8,226,105	------
Ger. Nat., Ill.	123,166	45,186	47,928	75,237	10,127,516	------
Ger., Freeport	295,851	139,067	149,801	146,050	43,057,791	------
German, Pa..	115,930	49,953	53,382	62,548	14,118,163	------
Ger., Peoria..	113,193	44,247	44,247	68,946	9,812,714	------
Ger., W. Va..	14,531	190	2,072	12,459	1,893,574	------
Girard	79,393	26,819	28,569	50,824	14,878,645	------
Granite State.	36,830	13,066	15,259	21,571	7,211,602	------
Hartford	1,509,123	654,912	649,723	859,400	175,708,490	------
Home F. & M.	67,132	27,565	26,464	40,669	8,134,214	------
Humboldt ...	17,638	1,565	2,963	14,675	3,288,020	------
Indianap'is F.	47,342	22,224	29,266	18,075	5,197,588	------
Ins. Co. N. A.	432,329	190,309	203,307	229,022	77,584,342	125,838,550
Ins. Co. S. Pa.	56,856	9,315	13,074	43,782	5,466,068	------
Lumb'men's ..	49,726	18,270	20,365	29,360	8,950,601	------
M'h. & T., La.	58,098	26,972	23,936	34,162	6,527,894	------
Mech'cs, Pa..	71,222	36,722	41,094	30,128	5,345,068	------
Mercantile ...	42,096	26,774	23,872	18,225	4,038,886	------
Metrop'n, Ill.	12,150	------	17	12,132	775,845	------
Mich., Com'l..	43,452	3,309	6,391	37,061	6,065,057	------
Mich. F & M.	40,840	15,912	19,289	21,552	6,262,505	------
Milwaukee F.	44,008	16,953	20,592	23,416	4,369,286	------
Milwau. Mech.	124,640	40,655	48,100	76,540	14,364,362	------
National, Pa..	70,668	19,887	26,546	44,122	8,357,494	------
Nat'l, Conn...	568,407	202,975	212,594	355,812	64,688,179	------
Nat. U'n, Pa.	174,186	53,405	58,903	115,283	20,015,142	------
Newark, N. J.	49,801	19,184	23,459	26,342	8,959,245	------
New Bruns'k.	16,168	4,860	4,122	12,046	2,007,879	------
New Hampsh.	231,355	127,005	122,347	109,008	29,989,936	------
N'thw'n, Nat.	143,994	43,986	41,644	102,351	22,760,119	221,084
Orient, Conn.	129,833	48,938	55,177	74,656	25,266,639	------
Pennsylvania .	399,998	186,381	196,218	203,780	51,981,680	------
Phœ'ix, Conn.	548,897	240,092	250,236	298,661	71,958,849	------
Prov.-Wash. ..	291,314	138,393	148,462	142,852	33,527,315	50,464,652
Reliance, Pa..	124,897	58,157	59,742	65,155	14,350,021	------
St. Paul.....	239,617	96,437	111,841	127,775	31,634,109	37,300,713
Sec'ity, Conn.	170,049	78,228	81,368	88,681	25,034,492	------
Security, Md.	106,565	32,642	32,642	73,922	9,784,650	------
Springfield ...	484,136	210,121	232,934	251,202	51,175,709	------
Spring Gard..	242,832	88,347	111,763	131,069	21,648,516	------
Stand'd., N. J.	38,837	3,393	4,646	34,191	4,436,911	------
Star Fire, Ky.	116,810	66,506	74,010	42,800	4,983,021	------
Teutonia, La.	81,135	36,745	39,192	41,943	10,431,226	------
Teut. Fire, Pa.	6,137	1,867	2,167	3,970	1,227,415	------
Traders', Ill..	147,196	60,269	58,565	88,631	15,625,918	------
Union, Pa....	96,181	43,060	47,345	48,836	10,499,134	------
United F'm's.	86,122	43,848	46,380	39,742	7,493,237	------
Virg. F. & M.	69,668	43,903	36,383	33,285	8,546,100	------
Virginia State	74,917	32,228	36,355	38,562	5,356,754	------
Western, Pa..	53,661	52,150	50,678	2,983	7,894,909	------
Totals	13,154,826	$5,463,553	$5,822,087	$7,332,739	1,608,028,800	376,058,515
Mutual Cos. of Other States.						
Farmers', Pa.	$66,812	$30,128	$39,503	$27,309	$7,477,709	------

COMPANIES.	Fire Premiums Received.	Fire Losses Paid.	Fire Losses Incurred.	Excess of Fire Premiums Received Over Fire Losses Incurred.	Risks Written. Fire.	Risks Written. Marine and Inland.
Foreign Cos.						
Aac. & Mun'h	$154,733	$55,994	$57,145	$97,588	$17,884,767	------
Alliance	74,550	17,018	16,101	38,449	9,112,402	------
Atlas As.....	163,612	86,368	77,750	85,861	30,381,283	------
Brit. America.	240,154	93,909	103,380	136,773	31,190,635	$9,846,151
Caledonian ..	227,859	108,996	119,375	158,483	33,621,030	------
Cologne	277,203	137,933	136,168	141,035	33,245,030	------
Comm'l Un'n.	592,370	263,602	252,882	339,488	86,439,231	9,116,048
Hamb.-Bre. ..	393,888	235,618	236,718	157,170	45,451,645	------
Salamandra ..	258,815	135,244	148,198	110,617	27,212,551	------
Law U. & C..	84,318	36,015	30,389	53,929	10,155,543	------
Liv., L. & G..	1,983,841	805,311	808,895	1,174,946	195,638,714	------
London Assu.	264,701	92,823	105,604	159,097	35,595,085	------
Lon. & Lanca.	364,666	255,071	262,559	101,906	85,437,243	------
Moscow Fire.	239,920	100,942	100,939	138,982	25,020,286	------
Munich Reins.	580,333	371,785	367,130	213,203	41,962,354	------
Netherlands ..	38,635	9,405	11,689	26,946	3,031,189	------
N. B. & Merc.	881,042	465,209	473,449	407,593	115,172,461	------
Northern	589,871	211,224	215,340	374,531	109,122,659	------
Norwich U..	281,453	131,730	137,267	144,185	40,645,100	------
Palatine	161,053	80,223	80,444	80,609	23,110,456	------
Phœnix	437,648	174,712	184,079	253,569	62,040,743	------
Prussian Nat.	98,154	40,650	49,311	48,843	13,920,838	------
Rossia	190,642	76,135	100,956	89,686	20,451,330	------
Royal	924,710	443,352	432,333	492,378	128,246,966	------
Royal Exch'e.	289,874	177,430	176,209	113,665	31,650,859	------
Scot. U. & N.	272,253	167,733	139,904	132,348	39,311,984	------
Skandia	153,041	70,442	67,303	85,739	14,928,043	------
Sun, London.	552,367	233,712	246,772	305,595	83,882,750	------
Svea F. & L..	92,730	42,553	41,570	51,160	9,027,214	------
Transatlantic .	53,062	12,352	19,468	33,594	6,013,278	------
Union, Lon...	240,860	127,275	108,791	132,069	27,797,690	------
West., Tor'o..	431,018	164,235	181,731	249,287	72,035,259	26,755,579
Totals	11,639,375	$5,425,001	$5,490,051	$6,149,323	1,508,766,618	$45,717,778
Gd. Tot., 1905	37,742,265	16,817,998	17,469,903	20,280,284	4,859,758,018	500,307,330
" 1904	35,505,800	19,511,080	19,301,538	16,216,862	4,572,597,504	478,097,998
" 1903	33,952,589	15,412,621	19,234,969	17,717,637	4,370,774,882	506,623,127
" 1902	31,154,606	15,134,747	14,748,832	------	4,303,760,976	505,180,523
" 1901	27,720,327	14,413,384	15,037,405	------	4,083,280,152	537,655,903
" 1900	22,867,152	16,040,452	16,377,645	------	3,591,009,332	529,907,299
" 1899	19,463,726	17,626,006	18,045,939	------	4,492,217,362	583,733,060
" 1898	19,864,032	10,041,904	11,312,777	------	3,830,229,868	539,231,482
" 1897	23,605,457	9,823,238	9,372,940	------	3,625,411,110	507,118,954
" 1896	23,408,641	10,028,125	10,620,199	------	3,295,556,843	417,878,711
" 1895	22,942,277	11,160,704	11,078,692	------	3,138,939,171	402,336,651
" 1894	22,085,737	12,628,881	12,116,222	------	3,058,083,506	406,455,373
" 1893	21,690,373	15,143,837	15,106,602	------	3,206,866,344	375,029,570
" 1892	21,458,929	13,004,343	24,310,426	------	3,554,408,821	441,487,668
" 1891	19,760,230	14,708,425	15,311,261	------	3,673,468,845	392,099,505
" 1890	19,222,683	11,048,249	11,485,221	------	3,469,029,302	328,721,223
" 1889	18,545,684	13,079,430	12,035,256	------	3,155,643,732	378,446,315
" 1888	19,348,109	12,801,459	13,165,707	------	3,257,286,543	346,289,063
" 1887	18,425,956	13,419,012	13,937,471	------	3,366,173,649	424,807,019
" 1886	18,868,049	9,273,999	9,595,101	------	3,154,454,992	531,737,199
" 1885	18,068,456	10,348,844	9,904,909	------	2,827,992,467	469,818,210
" 1884	17,570,660	9,692,060	10,028,112	------	2,831,265,982	297,248,247
" 1883	17,290,511	9,485,634	9,716,382	------	2,280,432,062	473,711,881
" 1882	16,524,671	10,393,653	9,937,265	------	2,890,656,418	455,489,989
" 1881	14,653,712	8,721,884	9,608,088	------	2,697,093,961	366,581,172
" 1880	14,216,546	7,792,949	7,800,072	------	2,564,293,831	261,757,555
" 1879	13,501,288	9,413,981	9,781,342	------	2,536,089,565	243,440,105
" 1878	14,110,740	5,093,832	6,051,643	------	2,419,459,390	222,056,801
" 1877	15,523,552	7,328,560	7,762,193	------	2,546,638,226	205,688,383

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-nine years embraced in the above table is 57.1. The percentage in 1905 was 41.9.

* Excess of losses incurred over premiums, 4.396.

(*Continued from page 282.*)

present rate of increase they would have in twenty-five years' time no less than eight hundred millions sterling to deal with. He knew there had been some attempt on the part of the companies to meet what he had in view. The New York Life and the Equitable had deposited money in the hands of the trustees over here. In France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Austria, Switzerland and Canada there were most stringent laws, providing that there should be deposited in the country where the business was carried on a sum of money or securities in some cases equal to the whole of the premiums which had been paid, and in other cases a large proportion of those premiums. In some countries there was State control and supervision over the companies, but here we had no control whatever. They might take risks in business, in investments and in speculation, but they could not afford to take risks in insurance. He hoped the Government would see their way to introduce legislation on the lines of that adopted by every other civilized country, and insist that any foreign insurance company carrying on business here should

deposit either with trustees or in a safe depository approved assets which should be sufficient to meet all liabilities they might incur to those who held policies and were British subjects.

The Earl of Granard, who replied for the Government, said that in most foreign countries the same laws applied to both foreign and native companies. In the case of Germany the laws were so stringent that no foreign company whatever did any business. The control we had in this country was very small. Provided any person wanting to do insurance business placed a sum of £20,000 with the Court of Chancery he could immediately commence business, and as soon as the policy fund reached £40,000 he was at perfect liberty to withdraw the £20,000 deposit. There was this safeguard, that we insisted on all companies publishing their accounts. The Government had carefully considered the matter, and they were of opinion that the best way to meet this question was to appoint a select committee, and he hoped to move for such a committee in a short time.

Latest Interpretation of the Anti-Rebate Law of Massachusetts.

In reply to a question from Insurance Commissioner Cutting, whether it is a violation of Section 68, Chapter 118 of the revised laws—the statute forbidding discrimination in favor of individuals between insurants of the same class in life insurance—for a life insurance company authorized in Massachusetts to allow any of its agents or officers a commission on the premiums on policies on their own lives, Attorney General Dana Malone has answered that he does consider such action a violation of the statute referred to. The concluding portion of Mr. Malone's opinion is as follows:

The question narrows itself to this: Is the granting of the customary commission to an agent or an officer of a corporation for securing a policy on his own life a rebate paid or allowed as an inducement to insurance? I am of opinion that it is. It is certainly a rebate paid or allowed, because it is, though in the form of a commission, or allowance to the person insured, given for no services rendered. It can hardly be maintained that it is a service rendered to persuade one's self to take out insurance in one's own company. I think it is, further, a payment or allowance as an inducement to insurance. To test this, let us suppose that the agent of a company desired insurance in a first class company. If he went to the agent of some other company he would pay the premium and the other agent would get the commission. If he said to the other agent: "I will insure myself in your company through you if you will insure yourself in my company through me, and we will thereby each get a commission," I believe that such a contract would be unlawful under Section 68, because it would amount to some special inducement to insurance paid or offered to each.

Can the agent, then, accomplish the same result by writing his own insurance himself? In other words, can he stand in the dual position of the insurant and the person negotiating the contract? I am of opinion that he cannot, and that when he applies to the company for a policy he stands as a would be insurant, and must be treated as such, and that he cannot be benefited by the payment or allowance to him of any sum, whether it is in terms a commission or a rebate.

Although I do not believe that the point raised by you as to the appointment of an applicant for insurance as a registered agent is of great importance, because such wholesale agencies could, obviously, be prevented, as not done in good faith, I do think that such an arrangement could, and very likely would, be entered into by a company in favor of some few very large prospective policyholders for the purpose of inducing them to take out insurance in the company.

The Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation

(LIMITED),

OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

Total Available Resources, over $8,000,00

$2,661,516.09 deposited in the United States for the benefit of United States Policyholders.

SAMUEL APPLETON, United States Manager,
Employers' Liability Building, 33 Broad Street, Boston, Mass

EDMUND DWIGHT,
Resident Manager for New York State,
76 William Street, New York

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references

WESTERN MANAGER

Care of WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William St., New York City

Applications will be considered strictly confidential.

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

Bankers Life Insurance Company
of the City of New York.
Foster M. Voorhees, President.
Issues the most liberal policies,
Offers the best renewal contracts to Agents of
Standing and Responsibility.
For particulars apply
Home Office, 31 Nassau St. N.Y. City.

CHARTERED 1866.

Hartford Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

Up to date in business methods—in contracts—in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.

$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.

Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.

INVESTIGATE.

The Mutual Benefit

LIFE INSURANCE CO.

NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

ASSETS (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1905,	$93,237,790.27
LIABILITIES,	85,918,227.30
SURPLUS,	7,319,562.97

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1904	$2,617,755.75
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,406,159.17
Joint Stock Capital	500,000.00

GERMANIA

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

NEW YORK.

ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE

Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY

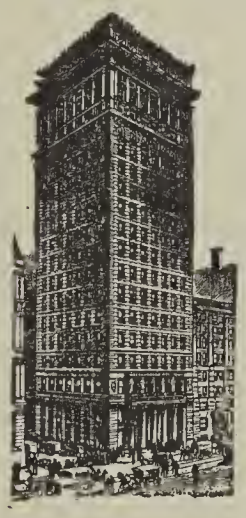
OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

NEW YORK OFFICE:

68 WILLIAM STREET.

Capital, $2,500,000. AGENTS WANTED.

SURETY ON BONDS.



American Surety Co.,

100 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK.

Capital, $2,500,000

STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Resources (including Capital, $2,500,000)	$6,193,137.53
Liabilities (including Reserve, $856,188.70)	1,347,671.23

HENRY D. LYMAN, *President.* W. S. JOHNSTON, *Vice-President.*

Telephone : Cortlandt 5395.

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 12 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Milwaukee.

ASSETS, $151,663,477.29

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1905 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $105.83 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1905:

395 per day in number of Claims Paid.
6,972 per day in number of Policies issued.
$1,502,484 per day in New Insurance Written.
$123,788.29 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.
$77,275.94 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks.	$79,629,477.18
Bonds and Mortgages..	38,062,610.75
Real Estate.....	17,495,905.30
Cash	4,183,912.16
Demand Loans on Collateral	3,747,285.50
Loans to Policyholders.	3,703,554.50
Prem. deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,826,755.63
Accrued Int., Rents, etc.	1,013,976.27
Total	$151,663,477.29

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves.....	$132,705,296.00
All other Liabilities.....	2,776,602.33
Capital and Surplus....	16,181,578.96
Total	$151,663,477.29

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security..... $318,264,084.12

Number of Policies in Force, 8,596,705.

Amount of Outstanding Insurance.....$1,596.509,769.00

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice President.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di.
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di.
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.
LIMITED,
OF LONDON.
OFFICE:
Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

QUEEN
Ins. Co. of America.
NEW YORK.

INCORPORATED 1865.
GERMAN INSURANCE CO.
OF FREEPORT, ILL.
The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$5,546,127.97
Cash Capital,	200,000.00
Liabilities, including reinsurance,	3,617,361.34
NET SURPLUS,	1,728,766.63

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

SAFETY FUND INSURANCE.
NIAGARA
Fire Insurance Company
OF NEW YORK.
OFFICE:
135 & 137 BROADWAY.

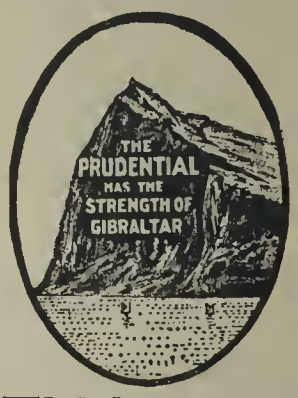
YOUNG MEN MAKE MONEY

There are opportunities to represent a big, sound, up-to-date Life Insurance Company in a profitable manner.

Prudential representatives make money. They have most varied forms of policies and advantageous contracts, with liberal commissions.

The attention of young men, particularly young men starting in business, is especially sought.

Write for full information regarding these unusual opportunities.



THE PRUDENTIAL
INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA
Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey.
JOHN F. DRYDEN, President Home Office, Newark, N. J.

Provident Life and Trust Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41
(Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.
Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

SUCCESSFUL LIFE INSURANCE MEN

wishing to secure a first class contract with a continuous renewal interest should communicate with

Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

New policy forms with special features very attractive to prospective insurers.

FOR FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS

C. H. JACKSON, Agency Secretary.

The Union Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

CAPITAL, - - $200,000,

STATEMENT, APRIL 1, 1904.

Bonds, Bank and Other Stocks, Market Value	$290,326.50
Demand Loans with Collateral Security	34,500.00
Real Estate, unincumbered, owned by the Company	106,500.00
Premiums in course of collection, Interest due Company and Cash in Banks and Office	222,561.32
Total Assets	$653,887.82

LIABILITIES.

Reserve for Reinsurance and other Liabilities	$280,736.85
Reserve for Losses under Adjustment and not yet due	94,533.01
Surplus to Policyholders	278,617.96
	$653,887.82

Losses paid since organization, $18,616,821.42.

CHAS. S. HOLLINSHEAD, President.

E. R. DANNELS, Secretary. M. JOS. NOWLAN, Assistant Secretary.

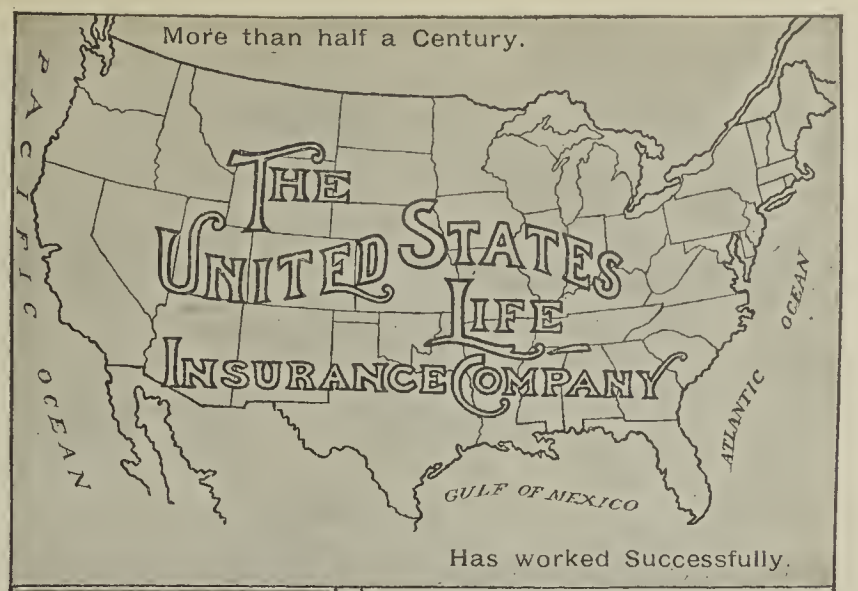
Head Office for the United States:

57 and 59

William Street,

NEW YORK.

A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Manager.



JOHN P. MUNN, M.D.
President

FINANCE COMMITTTEE

JAMES R. PLUM
Leather

CLARENCE H. KELSEY
Pres. Title Guar. and Trust Co.

WILLIAM H. PORTER
Pres. Chemical Nat'l Bank

Good men, whether experienced in life insurance or not, may make

DIRECT CONTRACTS

with this Company, for a limited territory if desired, and secure for themselves, in addition to first year's commission, a renewal interest insuring an income for the future. Address the Company at its HOME OFFICE, No. 277 Broadway, New York City.

How's Your Backbone? Can You Stand Alone?

Agents who can answer "strong" and "yes" to the above questions, and who want to be advanced more than they want advances, can secure splendid contracts with liberal renewal commission guarantees from the

Security Trust and Life Insurance Co.

BROADWAY and 26th STREET, NEW YORK.

Mr. Thomas Bradley, President

Mr. Geo. B. Luper, 2d Vice-President and General Manager

THE

MUTUAL

Life Insurance Company of Boston, Mass.

Insurance in Force, December 31, 1904, - - - Over $356,000,000

ROLAND O. LAMB, Vice-Pres.; ARNOLD A. RAND, 2d Vice-Pres.; ROBERT K. EATON, Sup't of Agencies; WALTON L. CROCKER, Secretary; WM. S. SMITH, Actuary; GEORGE L. STIMMEL, General Agent Metropolitan District.

St. Paul Building, New York.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.

Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.

A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.

A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

Caledonian Ins. Co., of Scotland.

FOUNDED 1805.

"The Oldest Scottish Insurance Office."

UNITED STATES HEAD OFFICE:

Caledonian Building, 50 and 52 Pine St., New York City

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,883,210.00
Liabilities	1,215,950.00
Net Surplus Over All Liabilities	$667,260.00

CHARLES H. POST, U. S. Mgr.
R. C. CHRISTOPHER, Ass't U. S. Mgr.

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,
CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1905,	$43,891,738.40
Liabilities,	36,675,050.24
Gross Surplus,	7,216,688.16

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.
Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

The Empire State Surety Co.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK
391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*
WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, JR., . *President*
EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

CONSERVATIVE
PROGRESSIVE
FAITHFUL

¶ Some of the cardinal aims of the *Union Mutual* management are—to be conservative in the choice of investments—to be progressive in the prosecution of the business—to be faithful to the interests of policyholders.

Agents of like inclination cordially welcomed.

Union Mutual Life Ins. Co.

Portland, Maine

FRED E. RICHARDS, *Pres.* ARTHUR L. BATES, *Vice-Pres.*

For Territory address either

EDSON D. SCOFIELD, Superintendent, 180 Broadway, N. Y. City.
THORNTON CHASE, Superintendent, 84 Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

Western Assurance Company

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, CANADA.
INCORPORATED 1851.

Hon. GEO. A. COX, President.
J. J. KENNY, V. P. and Managing Director.

UNITED STATES STATEMENT, JANUARY, 1906.

Assets	$2,397,608.00
Surplus in United States	782,945.00

HANOVER

Agencies in all the Principal Places in the United States.

Fire Insurance Company OF NEW YORK.

C. H. Buuker, President. Franklin H. Head, Vice-President.
A. A. Smith, Secretary, H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.

Continental Casualty Company

POLICIES ARE PROTECTED by more than ONE MILLION DOLLARS ASSETS.

Capital Stock, $300,000.00

Accident and Health Insurance

General Offices, **Chicago.**

OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS paid in claims to 175,000 of our POLICYHOLDERS.

GOOD CONTRACTS IN GOOD TERRITORY TO GOOD MEN

Producers, address H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.
134 Monroe Street, Chicago.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1905

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance.

The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy.

Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

The Preferred Accident Insurance Co.

OF NEW YORK.

Accident Policies. Health Policies.

Large Benefits, Low Rates, Best Commissions.

January 1, 1904.

Assets,	$1,152,330
Surplus,	439,609

KIMBALL C. ATWOOD, Sec., 290 Broadway, NEW YORK.

Liverpool & London & Globe Ins. Co.,

ESTABLISHED, 1836. ENTERED THE UNITED STATES, 1848.

NEW YORK OFFICE:
WILLIAM & PINE STREETS.

NEW ENGLAND, NEW YORK, PENNSYLVANIA, OHIO, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, TENNESSEE, ARKANSAS, MARYLAND, DELAWARE, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

H. W. EATON, Resident Manager.
GEO. W. HOYT, Deputy Manager.
JOHN J. MARTIN, Agency Superintendent.

CHICAGO OFFICE:
203—205 LA SALLE STREET

ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN, IOWA, WISCONSIN, MINNESOTA, MISSOURI, COLORADO, DAKOTA, KANSAS, NEBRASKA, MONTANA, UTAH, WYOMING AND NEW MEXICO. INDIAN AND OKLAHOMA TERRITORIES.

W. S. WARREN, Resident Secretary.
GEO. H. MOORE, J. V. THOMAS, Assistant Secretaries.

NEW ORLEANS OFFICE:
Corner CARONDELET AND GRAVIER STREETS.

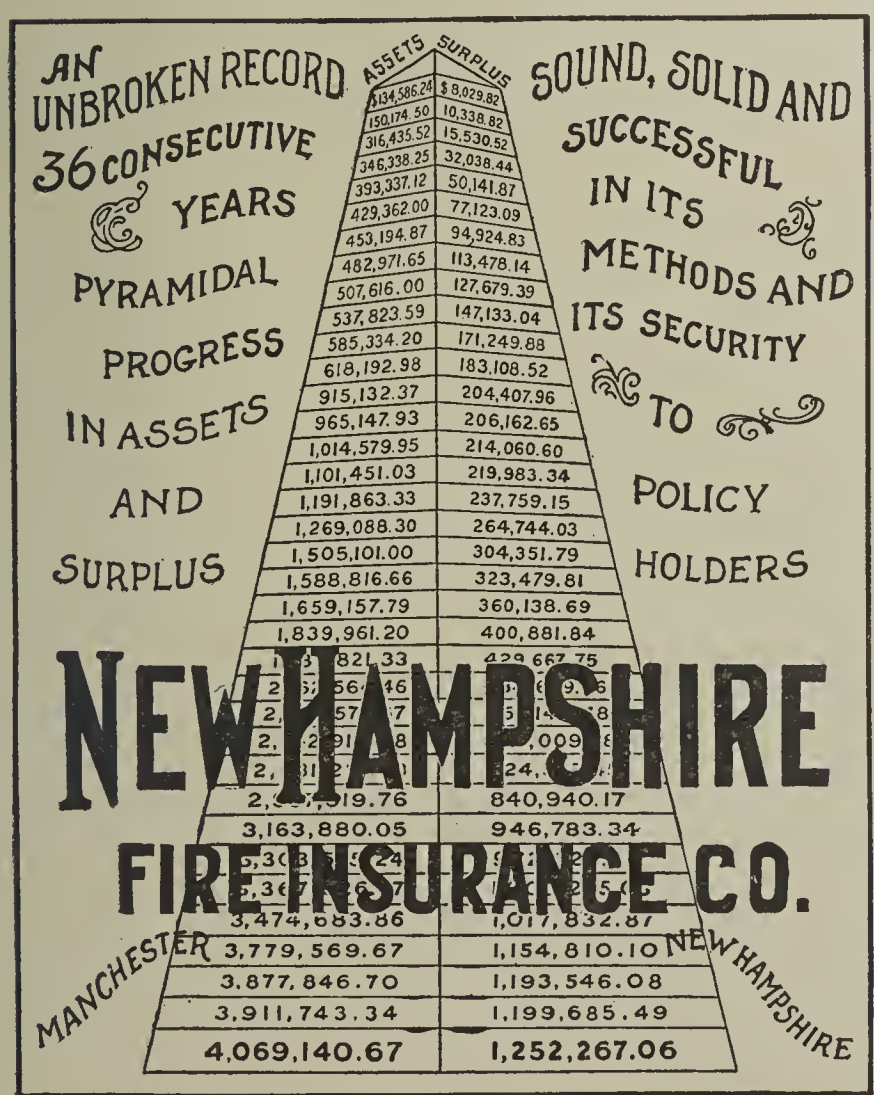
LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, ALABAMA, GEORGIA, FLORIDA, TEXAS.

CLARENCE F. LOW, Resident Secretary.
J. G. PEPPER, Assistant Secretary.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:
422 CALIFORNIA STREET.

CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, OREGON, WASHINGTON, IDAHO, ARIZONA

CHARLES D. HAVEN, Resident Manager.
C. MASON KINNE, Assistant Secretary.



ASSETS	SURPLUS
$134,586.24	$8,029.82
150,174.50	10,338.82
316,435.52	15,530.52
346,338.25	32,038.44
393,337.12	50,141.87
429,362.00	77,123.09
453,194.87	94,924.83
482,971.65	113,478.14
507,616.00	127,679.39
537,823.59	147,133.04
585,334.20	171,249.88
618,192.98	183,108.52
915,132.37	204,407.96
965,147.93	206,162.65
1,014,579.95	214,060.60
1,101,451.03	219,983.34
1,191,863.33	237,759.15
1,269,088.30	264,744.03
1,505,101.00	304,351.79
1,588,816.66	323,479.81
1,659,157.79	360,138.69
1,839,961.20	400,881.84
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE
Insurance Company.
1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization
A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906 ..... $13,024,882.85

LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,398,152.28	
Capital Stock	3,000,000.00	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,730.57	$13,024,882.85

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

London Assurance Corporation,

CHARTERED A. D. 1720.

SURPLUS IN U. S. JAN. 1, 1905, $831,256.62

CHAS. LYMAN CASE, Manager.
61 Pine Street, NEW YORK.

SEVENTH ANNUAL STATEMENT

The Indianapolis Fire Insurance Co.

December 31, 1905.

INCOME.

From Premiums (net)	$348,437.64
From Interest	20,417.25
Total Income	$368,854.89

DISBURSEMENTS.

For Losses paid	$164,124.37
For Dividends paid Stockholders	12,000.00
For Commissions and Brokerage	85,065.43
For Salaries—Officers and all Employees	25,365.22
For Rent	2,120.00
For Taxes, Licenses and Insurance Department Fees	10,491.34
For Premiums on Bonds, ratable portion charged off	715.07
For Advertising, Printing and Stationery	3,721.41
For Agency, Traveling and all other Miscellaneous Expenses	17,889.49
For Suspended Accounts charged off	18.43
Total Disbursements	$321,510.76

ASSETS.

Mortgage Loans, first liens on real estate	$364,130.00
Bonds owned by Company	113,691.58
Cash in Bank and Office	13,131.37
Agents' Balances	40,925.29
Certificates of Deposit in Trust Companies	17,500.00
Due from other Companies for Reinsurance	8,566.52
Deposit with Auditor of State (guarantee dividend fund)	2,300.00
Accrued Interest on Mortgages and Bonds	6,027.44
Total Assets	$566,272.20

LIABILITIES.

Reserve for all Losses and Claims Unpaid	$32,123.91
Reserve for Unearned Premiums	238,354.06
Capital paid up in Cash	200,000.00
Surplus over Capital and all other Liabilities	95,794.23
Total Liabilities	$566,272.20

Deposited with Indiana Insurance Department (legal requirement), $52,300.

JOHN H. HOLLIDAY, President. H. C. MARTIN, Secretary.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1906. No. 16.

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Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

THE President's message to Congress upon insurance may be accepted as notice that he has given up his hastily conceived humor for Federal supervision, and is anxious to employ a practicable means to conserve the great insurance interest. He asks Congress to enact an insurance law for the District of Columbia which can serve as a model for adoption by all the States, and thus bring about uniformity as well as improvement. A model insurance law that, in the language of the President, shall "be at once protective of policyholders and fair and just to insurance companies" is something that is greatly to be desired. It can be had, however, only after a careful hearing by Congress of expert insurance opinion, as well as of lay opinion. A model law is impossible if legislation is to be driven by whip and spur in the New York fashion. The bill which has been prepared by the Chicago convention committee has many features to commend it, one of them being that it does not try to do too much. But it covers the entire range of the insurance business, and must undergo siftings and readjustments to be truly "model."

ANY attempt to give a detailed statement of the fire insurance losses at San Francisco, at this time of writing, is impracticable. Confusion still prevails in the burned city, and only the wildest guesses are possible at the home offices while the California representatives of the companies on the spot are unable to wire definite information. In a general way it may be said that the companies had at risk in the city some $200,000,000. The report is that "half of the city is burned." Much the more valuable half is, of course, concerned, but still we can always confidently discount first reports of disasters from excited communities, and calculate upon a considerable reduction in actual loss. The best result, anyhow, will be bad enough. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the agency companies which have been underwriting San Francisco values—nearly all of them, if not all—are strong enough to pay their losses and continue in business. They will meet the situation manfully, as they did at Chicago, Boston and Baltimore, and promptly do their share toward the reconstruction of the metropolis of the Pacific Coast, whose people, with steady American pluck, have resolutely set their faces toward the future.

THE Commonwealth of Massachusetts is fortunate in having as its head so sane and level headed an executive as Governor Curtis Guild, Jr., a man who declines to be stampeded by brash and brassy newspaper talk or the insistent nagging of the sudden school of "reformers." The special message he sent to the Legislature of his State last Monday, suggesting that the enactment of life insurance measures growing out of the New York agitation be deferred to the next General Court, and that the life of the special advisory commission be prolonged for that purpose, enabling it to profit by the deliberations of the national insurance convention next September, is quite in line with his character. There is good reason to believe that the Legislature will comply with the Governor's wishes in this respect, and add another to the salutary examples already furnished by the lawmaking bodies of Iowa, Maryland, Kentucky and Ohio this year. Care, thoroughness, impartiality and the judicial spirit were never more needed in insurance legislation than at the present epoch, and it is one of the cheering signs of the times that the leaven of wholesome self restraint is beginning to succeed the unbridled passions and denunciatory mouthings of the recent past. *Festina lente* is an admonition which needs to be heeded now as much as, and perhaps more than, ever before. It is no small thing to attempt to modify the workings of so huge and complex a scheme as life insurance.

THE sort of consideration the interests of life insurance are receiving at Albany was shown this week in the treatment of the opponents of the provision to open the lists of policyholders to public inspection. The opinion that it needlessly exposes the companies to great dangers at enormous expense is not new. It has been honestly held by all the life insurance authorities who have been examined or consulted by the Armstrong Committee. That it should be entertained with equal sincerity by Senator Horace White, who offered the amendment which guards the policyholders' lists from the Lawsons and their kind, is no cause for surprise. But this Senator and those who agree with him are assailed by the press, by Chairman Armstrong and by Governor Higgins as if they were abandoned sinners intent upon robbing the policyholders. "Ugly rumors are afloat," we learn from one paper, "about the corruption fund raised by the insurance companies to bribe Senators and kill publicity." Senator Armstrong raged over the breakdown of the entire remedial scheme embodied in his bills if this one feature were extracted from them, and incidentally let out the fact that his real purpose is to oust the present administrations of the mutual companies. The interference by Governor Higgins was outrageous. Not only has he given forth a public statement intended to dragoon the legislative branch but he has been guilty of sending for Senators who stood for the White amendment and "bringing pressure to bear on them" to change their votes. Pressure from insurance companies is wrong, it seems, but from the Governor is right. Under caucus pressure the majority party Senators who supported the White amendment have weakened, and the publicity sec-

tion will doubtless go through in practically its original form; but if they had possessed the sand to hold out against the extravagant abuse hurled at them from the executive chamber, the Armstrong Committee and the Albany correspondents, they would have done the best service possible for the policyholders, who have not asked for this publication of their private affairs for the benefit of raiders and twisters, and who would vehemently protest against it were they alive to what is going on.

THE largest New York local general agency of the Equitable Life Assurance Society went into bankruptcy this week, and gave as one of the reasons for its failure its enforcement upon its sub-agents of the society's rule against rebating, while the representatives of other companies were rebating without restraint. A member of this general agency, Mr. Randolph Bohm, made the following statement to a daily newspaper by way of explanation:

What man is going to make an affidavit that he has broken the law, and the company would not accept any evidence but that. As a practical life insurance man I do not believe there is an agent in the business who has not in his time given rebates, and I do not believe the new laws proposed by the Armstrong Committee will prevent them being allowed in the future. Suppose I give you a rebate; you are not going to tell of it, when it is a misdemeanor for you to have accepted it, and the only way in which I can give information is by turning State's evidence against you, my accomplice in the illegal act.

Twenty-five States now prohibit by law and with stringent penalties for violation thereof the giving of any part of their commissions by the agent to the assured. In several States the assured is made equally guilty in accepting the rebate. The Armstrong law, signed by the Governor this week, has the latter feature. In 1895 twenty-four leading life insurance companies united in an anti-rebate compact, which lasted four years, and after it went to pieces (because it could not be enforced) the companies individually continued their efforts to suppress the practice. There is not one life insurance company in active business that does not discountenance it and threaten with dismissal agents who rebate their commissions. The National Association of Life Underwriters and the various local associations have passed resolutions over and over again denouncing rebating. It is under universal ban, so far as Authority goes. And yet everybody in the business knows that it continues. And down in the bottom of his heart every practical life insurance man knows that many agents will rebate their commissions so long as it is profitable to do so, and they are safe from detection. As a rule they are safe. The new Armstrong law will add to their security against exposure, for the mouth of the other party to the transaction—the equally guilty assured—is now also sealed. The mandate against rebating fails, because it does not appeal to the consciences of numerous men that rebating is wrong. With the agent it is simply giving away what is his own; with the assured it is the acceptance of a bargain. To both it is like any other trading, and they are no more concerned that the older policyholder suffers by their act than the buyer of stocks in Wall Street is troubled that someone else loses when he gains. On the other hand, the agent who in loyalty to the interests of his company does not believe in rebating sees much business slip away, as Mr. Bohm did. Obviously the only cure for the practice is the elimination of the motive for it, and that is centred in the arrangement of the commission so that while it will be adequate in the long run it will not be enough to give away profitably at the beginning.

Facts and Opinions.

The following dispatch was received by THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER yesterday from Mr. S. H. Wolfe, who is at Los Angeles making an examination of the Conservative Life end of the **Pacific Mutual Life insurance company** on behalf of the California Insurance Department:

LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 20.—Pacific Mutual Life affairs will be promptly and efficiently handled from this office. No information has yet been received about the fate of the San Francisco office, but confidence is felt that the securities are intact, so that policyholders are amply protected. All mortgage loans are kept here. Over $700,000 in bonds are deposited in Sacramento with the State. Over a half million dollars of other securities are held here. There is very little mortgaged property in the stricken district. The bonds in San Francisco are in the best safe deposit vaults there built for the San Francisco Clearing House. I am advised that the California laws require stockholders to be responsible for corporation debts, and under these circumstances I think that the policyholders are amply secured. The probable death losses sustained by this company are inconsiderable. S. H. WOLFE.

Numerous changes are in progress at the **New York headquarters of the Pacific Mutual Life** of San Francisco, which has been in charge of Edwin D. Boldman, Eastern manager since February 15. The successor of W. B. Mann is an aggressive insurance man from Columbus, Ohio, who was supervisor of agencies for the Travelers there for some time, and latterly manager of the health department of the New Amsterdam Casualty Company in that city. He will be assisted in his work of reorganizing the local department, in accordance with the new policy of centralization, by R. George Rusk, who arrived Tuesday from Seattle, Wash., where he has been cashier of the company's office for two years past. Previously he was with the New York Life there as cashier for nearly two years. Mr. Rusk will keep an eye on the agency department besides looking after his duties as cashier, and successor of Charles P. Brackett, who has been with the local office for a number of years. Mr. Boldman intends to make a special feature of the accident and health department, and will push the new joint accident and health policy under preparation, which has several novel features designed by himself. The new policies will be issued early in May. On June 1 the New York office will move from the present quarters at 68 William to the offices on the third floor of the Bishop Building, 76 William, now occupied as the New York headquarters of the Maryland Casualty Company. This will give double the space in use at present.

The Equitable Life has been in correspondence with former **policyholders who lapsed** their policies during the recent panic, with the view of inducing them to return if they are in proper physical condition. President Morton says on this subject:

My belief that the small policyholder was the chief sufferer from the agitation and excitement regarding life insurance is now confirmed. The holders of policies of $5,000 and upward are generally men of business experience; they recognized the strength of the companies and were not disturbed, but there was a great deal of alarm among the holders of small policies. Through fear based on misapprehension of the real facts, and often on misrepresentation, thousands of them allowed their policies to lapse. I felt many would wish to return after the entire solvency of the society had been demonstrated by the report of the chartered accountants, and we have made it as easy as possible for them to come back. Everything about the society's condition has now been made public; all of the assets it claims to hold with which to meet its obligations are intact, and they have been revalued on a conservative basis, showing the exact conditions as they exist at the present moment. It has been clearly demonstrated that Equitable policyholders need have no further apprehension, but that, on the contrary, they have every reason to be confident of the safety and value of their investments with the society. The present management of the society is determined to conduct its affairs for the best interests of the policyholders, and with such economy that insurance will hereafter be furnished at a minimum cost.

The February report of the Boston Manufacturers' Mutual Fire contained an **account of a mill fire** which attained destructive proportions because it had been carelessly assumed that the fire was mastered before such was the case. The March report gives an instance to the contrary, where the plan of eternal vigilance and taking no chances prevented a costly blaze. It happened on February 26 in the cotton mill at Darlington, S. C., and is described as follows:

Shortly before 6 p. m. a lap rod falling on rolls struck fire in one of the pickers. The fire was quickly carried to the dust room where one sprinkler head opened, and with the assistance of two hose streams soon extinguished same. An examination of the machine was made; all fans were started for a few minutes, and no indication of any further trouble was apparent. However, on account of the trouble which had occurred, a special watchman was detailed to look after the picker room for the night. On his arrival in the room at 7:10 p. m. he discovered the pile of loose cotton on floor under conveyor from opening room in No. 3 to be on fire. He immediately gave the alarm by having the whistle blown, and same was responded to by the mill help. Two small hose streams were brought into play, and with the assistance of water from five automatic sprinklers which had opened from the heat, the fire was extinguished after about fifteen or twenty minutes' duration. The cause of this fire was probably a spark brought by a back draft from the dust hole which, lodging in the cotton, smoldered there until discovered. Loss, $138.31. This company not interested.

In the **case of George W. Perkins,** who underwent technical arrest three weeks ago on a warrant charging him with larceny in having misappropriated funds of the New York Life insurance company, of which he was formerly vice president, by accepting the return of $48,000 which he had contributed to the campaign funds of the Republican party during the presidential campaign in 1904, and who applied for discharge on a writ of habeas corpus, Justice Greenbaum, of the New York Supreme Court, on Wednesday dismissed the writ, and, as it was Mr. Perkins' announced intention to appeal from the decision, paroled him in the custody of his counsel, Lewis L. Delafield. Justice Greenbaum, in a long decision, held that political contributions by insurance companies are illegal, and come under the provisions of Section No. 528 of the penal code, defining larceny. The officers of the corporation who make or approve such contributions, he rules, are, therefore, guilty of larceny if the criminal intent can be shown. Whether or not Mr. Perkins had the necessary criminal intent to make him guilty is a question for a jury to decide, and not within the province of the court.

In place of Muir & Haughton, as United States managers for the **General Accident Assurance Corporation of Perth,** Scotland, whose removal was announced last week, General Manager F. Norrie-Miller formally announced this week the appointment of Franklin J. Moore as their successor. Mr. Moore has been in the personal accident business since 1885, when he became New York agent for the New England Mutual Accident Association of Boston. In 1889 he became superintendent of agencies, with headquarters in Boston, and in 1896 secretary and general manager of the company, until its business was reinsured with the General Accident Assurance Corporation in April, 1899, when he accepted the post of secretary. He was elected president of the International Association of Accident Underwriters at its meeting in 1902, secretary of the Board of Casualty Underwriters on its organization in 1904, and is also president of the Moore Manufacturing Company. He is a native of Morrow, Ohio, where he was born December 11, 1861. There were reports in Philadelphia this week that Muir & Haughton would sue the General Accident of Perth for violation of contract.

The directors of the **Hanover Fire insurance company of New York** have elected R. Emory Warfield, of Philadelphia, now manager of the Middle Department of the Royal, to succeed President Charles A. Shaw, who retires from the presidency to devote his entire time to the New York Board of Water Supply. The new president was first with the Firemen's of Baltimore in 1871 as a clerk, becoming its secretary seven years later. In 1882 he resigned to go with the Continental of New York as manager for its Maryland and Delaware Department. Three years later Mr. Warfield left the Continental to take charge of the Baltimore Department of the Royal, and later, when the Baltimore and Philadelphia departments were consolidated under the title of Middle Department of the Royal, he was made assistant manager in that field, and subsequently became manager. The Hanover Fire will thus have the services as president of one of the strongest underwriters hitherto in the field only.

That ardent national supervisionist, Mr. **Ralph W. Breckenridge,** of Omaha, chairman of the insurance committee of the American Bar Association, fears the concentration of control over life insurance in New York instead of the Federal Government by the passage of the Armstrong measures. He says:

Though the Armstrong Committee wisely avoided inquiry into those conditions which were stated by insurance officials as a reason for the expenditure of large sums to prevent hostile legislation, there is ground for the fear that the State of New York will shortly enact laws that will virtually place the management and control of the insurance business of the United States with the insurance department of that State. This will be done by prescribing not only how the business of the New York companies shall be conducted in New York State, but elsewhere, and by requiring companies of other States that may wish to enter the State of New York to comply with such requirements in detail. And these requirements will involve not only control of the plan or method by which the business is conducted, but will place hitherto unheard of restrictions upon the investment of the funds of the companies.

The Montreal *Star* says that officers of life insurance companies are complaining of the impracticableness of many of the questions sent them by the **Canadian Government Insurance Commission.** Among these objectors is a representative of the New York Life, who is quoted as speaking thus:

Of course there is a great deal of this information which they will need in their investigation, but the major part of it cannot serve any purpose. For example, why do they want to know the details of lapsed policies each year for fifteen years? Can you imagine the work connected with working out this one detail of the questions, and it is not one of the most extensive ones. If a company has some 20,000,000 of lapsed policies in that time, and I fancy some of them have more than this, it will be a pretty hard task to go into each one and find out why it lapsed and all the circumstances. Suppose that all the companies operating in Canada did answer all these questions and submit the replies to the commission—and the job is not a matter of months, but years—how do you think the commission would ever get through the evidence? They would be drowned. Their grandchildren would have to finish examining it, for it would take more than a lifetime.

The **Chicago Life Underwriters' Association,** at its April dinner at the Midday Club on Tuesday, went on record as opposed to rebating in any form, and adopted resolutions denouncing the practice. Addresses were delivered by H. D. Wright, on the "Educational Value of Industrial Insurance"; by C. M. Cartwright, of the *Western Underwriter,* on "Value of the Association Movement," and by Col. J. P. Kellogg, formerly editor of *"Black and White,"* on "Good Fellowship." Following is the resolution:

The membership of the Chicago Life Underwriters' Association, recognizing the evils attendant on the practice of rebating and desiring to promote among life insurance salesmen that high standard of business conduct for which most of the companies and associations stand, pledge ourselves to employ all reasonable means to suppress the pernicious practice wherever found. We take this action in recognition of our responsibility to our individual companies and to the beneficent institution of life insurance, which now forms so important a factor in our social and economic life.

The strong companies favoring the adoption of the 20 per cent. commission agreement for **the metropolitan district of Boston** are getting impatient at the minority, which has so

long blocked the consummation of the plan. A number of leading Boston agents, individually, took a trip to New York, end of last week, to see what they could do to push the matter along, and received conditional assurances of final action ere long. If this does not take the form of a ratification of the agreement—and some of the less hopeful consider that it is foredoomed to failure now—the companies will take measures to protect themselves against commission competition. The possibility of the disruption of the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters, should matters reach this stage, is admitted, but the belief also exists that the protective measures may be shaped in a manner to avoid this unwelcome extreme.

Insurance aggregating $277,000 on the life of **Joshua Burdette,** a wealthy banker of Eufaula, Ind. Ter., will be paid without protest by the companies involved. The largest policy of all, one for $100,000 in the Penn Mutual Life of Philadelphia, taken out four months before death, contained a six months' suicide clause, and because of this the Penn Mutual at first refused payment. The banker's death was particularly mysterious, as he was found lifeless in his own back yard one morning with a bullet hole in the back of his head. The companies carrying the risks and the amounts in each are: Penn Mutual Life, $100,000; Equitable, $70,000; Mutual Life, $40,000; Indiana State Life, $10,000; American National of Galveston, $10,000; Providence Savings, $35,000; Fidelity and Casualty (accident insurance), $10,000; Knights of Pythias, $2,000.

Concerning the position of the **New York Life in England** Mr. C. Lindsay, general manager of the company there, has written to the Earl of Onslow, saying:

We shall be more than glad to see some measure of just and searching supervision exercised over the business generally here in England, and that we hold ourselves at the service of the select committee to be appointed, to give them every information so far as the working of this company in this country and others is concerned. As regards the fund which is in the hands of the British trustees for security of policyholders, their heirs and the annuitants, may I say that they hold it under a deed of trust, which expressly provides that as often as any portion of that fund should be used by the trustees, in accordance with their powers, whatever amount is so used must be at once replaced by the company, so that they will always have in their hands £100,000 over and above whatever may have been paid out. I might also add that, outside of this amount, there is considerably over £1,000,000 of the company's funds in this country, mostly in the shape of British consols.

Insurance rates in the business district of **Portsmouth, N. H.,** have been advanced to 5 and 7 per cent. on buildings and contents, while in the congested parts of the business district they have been doubled by order of the New Hampshire Board of Underwriters. The reasons given for the increase are the presence of buildings in the district affected which would offer little resistance to fire, and the opening of several automobile garages with large amounts of gasoline in stock. Insurance now in force will be continued at the old rates, but will be renewed upon its expiration only upon payment of the advanced rates. Business firms are affected in the district bounded on the north by Congress street, on the east by Church street, on the south by State street, and on the west by Chestnut street.

The **Colorado Association of Life Underwriters** was organized April 7 at a meeting held in the office of General Agent Nordseik, of the Germania Life, in Denver. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, J. P. Cullum, Union Central insurance company; first vice president, J. Standley Edwards, Ætna; second vice president, A. H. Stewart, Union Mutual Life; secretary, W. Rolla Wilson, Washington; treasurer, W. W. Booth, Provident Savings; executive committee, chairman, G. A. Newkirk, Mutual Benefit; Ira B. Jackson, Pacific Mutual; Meyer Harrison, Penn Mutual; Frederick E. Busby, National Life of Vermont; G. A. Rathbun, Equitable.

The *Insurance Herald,* of Atlanta, mentions these as the laws which the **fire insurance convention of Tennessee business men,** to be held at Nashville May 17, will recommend to the Legislature of that State for passage:

First—A fire marshal law, which provides for a State official to detect and prosecute those guilty of arson.

Second—A standard form policy law, which provides that all companies must use a certain standard form of policy, thus insuring that no clause unauthorized by law shall be inserted in any policy.

Third—Laws preventing carelessness.

Fourth—Building laws.

Fifth—Laws under which home mutual companies can operate successfully.

In a letter to Mayor McClellan last week Fire Commissioner O'Brien revived the project of a **new fire alarm system for Manhattan.** Former Commissioner Hayes criticised severely the proposed outlay of $1,625,000 by the city, when during his term a thorough examination of the situation was made by Kempster B. Miller, electrical engineer, and John J. Carty, consulting engineer, on behalf of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters. The $1,625,000 which Commissioner O'Brien wants the board of estimate to set aside is exclusive of ground for a central station. The inefficiency of the present system, the commissioner states, is obvious.

That the company cannot pay a claim on an **automobilist,** "as **most of them are monomaniacs** on the question of speeding their machines," is the answer of the Ocean Assurance Corporation, formerly the Ocean Accident and Guarantee, to the suit of the heirs of M. L. Hancock, killed in an automobile accident at Los Angeles, Cal. The company says further that as the man was practically insane the company should not be held liable, and if so, for only half the amount due, as it alleges its liability is lessened if the insured engages in any hazardous employment like automobiling. The suit will be followed with interest by insurance men.

An agreement to extend the time for cancellation of policies for non-payment of premium to ninety days was reached at a meeting held this week of the **Plate Glass Underwriters' Association** in the office of the New Amsterdam Casualty Company. The former rule as to payments within sixty days is not altered, but more leeway is given in sending out notices of cancellation. The old officers were re-elected as follows: William F. Moore, of the New Amsterdam Casualty, president; Eugene H. Winslow, of the Metropolitan Plate Glass and Casualty, vice president, and C. E. W. Chambers, of the Lloyds Plate Glass, secretary.

Plans for the erection of a new home office building in Des Moines have been announced by the **Equitable Life of Iowa.** The cost will be about $500,000, while the proposed site is the baseball park between Fourth and Sixth streets. The project is now made possible through recent legislation passed by the Iowa General Assembly, whereby State insurance companies are allowed to deposit with the Auditor of the State, as security to policyholders, the title to home office buildings. The Central Life of Iowa also expects to erect a home office building in the near future, but definite plans have yet to be announced.

There is a prospect of the entry of **Canadian associations of life underwriters** into the National Association of Life Underwriters of this country. Our Toronto contemporary, *Office and Field,* states that Mr. Ernest J. Clark, of Baltimore,

secretary of the National Association, has been in communication with the Life Underwriters' Association of Montreal with this purpose in view, and that he writes: "We are now in position to extend a welcome hand to the Canadian associations, and if such meets with their approval, invite them to join forces with our National Association."

These will be the speakers at the meeting of the **Boston Life Underwriters' Association** next Tuesday evening: W. C. Johnson, general agent of the Phœnix Mutual Life, New York; Representative W. H. J. Hayes, of Lowell; Hon. Harrison Hume, of Boston, Mass.; Secretary D. Fred Appel, of the New England Mutual Life. Honorary guests: Senator Fordyce C. Parker, chairman of the Massachusetts legislative insurance committee, and Messrs. Bates, Whitman and Nash, composing the special advisory insurance commission of the Massachusetts Legislature.

The twenty-ninth annual meeting of the Supreme Council of the **Royal Arcanum** will begin at the Hotel Chamberlin, Old Point Comfort, Va., Wednesday, May 16, at 2 o'clock. In the meanwhile it is quite likely that the full bench of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, in which State the order is incorporated, will have decided whether or not the Supreme Council was within its powers in ordering the new schedule of rates last year, which will also determine whether the meeting of the "Supremes" is to be an occasion of rejoicing or sorrow.

Committees were appointed last Saturday by the **New England Insurance Exchange** and by the Suburban Underwriters' Association of Boston to confer with the committee appointed by the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters last week upon the matter of reorganizing the Suburban Association. The Suburbans delegated comprise Edwin A. Binney, C. W. Gould, Charles Liffler, Herman Bird and T. H. Raymond; those of the Exchange are W. H. Smith, George Neiley, John J. Cornish, J. L. Liecty and W. H. Boutell.

In the Superior Criminal Court at Boston on Wednesday **Lawson's man** pleaded guilty on two counts of giving rebates on life insurance premiums as an inducement to the person insured. Judge Bond imposed a fine of $100 in each case. Lawson paid the fines. His original "holler" about "giving away" policies for proxies seems to have faded into nothingness. District Attorney Moran has announced that the local "insurance probe" is at an end for want of further evidence.

The following is the official announcement of the forthcoming **annual meeting of the South Eastern Tariff Association:**

The executive committee has named Wednesday, May 16, 1906, as the date for the next annual meeting of the association, which will be the twenty-fourth anniversary of its organization. The place of meeting has also been selected by the committee, and will be Hot Springs, Va. The headquarters of the association at Hot Springs will be the Homestead Hotel.

CHAS. C. FLEMING, Secretary.

The **Keystone Life of New Orleans,** La., now being organized, has a capital of $100,000, of which $75,000 is already subscribed. Twenty directors will control the company. The officers are: Capt. L. P. Delahoussaye, president; A. Wagatha, first vice president; J. Nienaber, second vice president; William Pfaff, treasurer; W. Sparling, secretary; John T. Crebbin, M. D., medical director; R. J. Maloney, attorney; John J. McCloskey, assistant attorney.

On Monday the first annual meeting of the **Calumet Fire of Illinois,** which began business March 25, 1905, was held, and the report of Manager C. B. Gilbert showed the company writing business through 700 agencies in twenty-three States. The fiscal year was changed to correspond with the calendar year, and the words "of Illinois" were dropped from the title. George B. Robbins and T. J. Connors were chosen directors. The Calumet has been admitted to Connecticut.

The United States manager of the North British and Mercantile insurance company issued the following **cheerful conflagration proclamation** yesterday morning:

Agents and policyholders of this company are advised that provision has been made for meeting all liabilities that may be found against the company by reason of the great disaster at San Francisco, our London office having cabled instructions as follows:

"E. G. Richards, United States Manager—Draw on London in payment of recognized claims. Subscribe five thousand or more for sufferers."

The Kentucky field of the **London and Lancashire and Orient** has been placed in entire control of Special Agent A. H. McAtee, of the Louisville agency firm of McAtee & Duncan, which for some time has been in charge of Kentucky, under General Agent R. A. Hancock, of Atlanta, Southern manager. Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Tennessee and the Carolinas are in Mr. Hancock's jurisdiction.

Control of the **Guardian Life of Kansas City** has been secured by John H. Boldman, former general agent in Kansas City and western Missouri for the Mutual Reserve Life, and H. S. Halbert, formerly an officer of the Bankers Life of Kansas City, now the Kansas City Life. The Guardian was recently organized and licensed in Missouri, to which State it will for the time being restrict its business.

At Marion, Ind., the **Hoosier State Life,** organized on the legal reserve basis, has been incorporated and the following officers elected: President, George A. H. Shideler, of Marion; secretary, D. H. Jackson, Indianapolis; treasurer, E. H. Johnson, Marion. According to further advices the company will shortly erect a building on a lot at the corner of Boots and Fourth streets, Marion.

At a meeting of the directors of the Continental Life Insurance and Investment Company of Salt Lake City the **resignation of Hiram Tyree,** as president and general manager, was accepted, and Thomas R. Cutler was elected to the first named office. The directors passed a resolution exonerating Mr. Tyree from the charge of falsifying the records of the company.

The Circuit Court at Akron, Ohio, in the **ouster case against the Mutual Life and the New York Life** insurance companies, on Tuesday sustained the motions of the defendants to have the State make its petition more definite. The hearings were continued and no commissioner to take depositions was appointed.

The **Home Fire insurance company of Phœnix,** Ariz., has been incorporated with $100,000 capital to do a fire and marine tornado, cyclone and plate glass insurance business. The officers of the new company are: Alexander Buck, president; J. H. Lucas, vice president; W. C. Hughes, secretary and treasurer.

The **Ætna Life agency** at 44 Cedar street, New York, under Manager Patterson, is soon to have more commodious quar-

ters on the fourth floor of the Continental Building. At present the liability department shares the rooms on the seventh floor. The growing business of the company demanded more room.

The Spanish Minister of Finance on Wednesday proposed to the Ministerial Council that foreign insurance companies **operating in Spain** furnish monetary guarantees for the policies issued, and that the Government also establish the most severe control over such companies.

All of the fifty-nine life insurance companies doing business in Pennsylvania **have filed a written agreement** in the Insurance Department of Pennsylvania pledging themselves to dismiss any agent or employee who violates the law prohibiting the giving of rebates.

The **Buffalo Association of Fire Underwriters** held its annual meeting April 4, and re-elected the following officers: F. L. A. Cady, president; E. C. Roth, vice president; Charles M. Clarke, secretary; Nathaniel P. Hall, treasurer.

The negotiations between Mr. E. K. Beddall and his partners for his withdrawal from the firm of **Hall & Henshaw** have been terminated, and the firm will continue without further change, Mr. Beddall remaining in it.

The **long overdue** Italian ship Elisa arrived at San Francisco on Tuesday after a voyage of 212 days from Hamburg. Reinsurance on the Elisa was quoted at 15 per cent.

The annual meeting of the **National Board of Fire Underwriters** will be held on May 10.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Alliance of Philadelphia: Fred W. Cole, Atlanta, Ga.

Dutchess of Poughkeepsie: Gordon & Dunkin, agents for South Carolina, with headquarters at Charleston, S. C.

Liverpool and London and Globe: Roger E. Brown, of Fargo, special agent for North Dakota.

Manhattan Life: E. A. P. Haynes, formerly with the Ætna Life, general agent for St. Louis and twenty-three adjoining counties.

United States Casualty Company: John J. Manion, Buffalo general agent for its personal, accident and health lines.

Mr. Leonard G. Ten Eyck, of the Albany, N. Y., insurance firm of that name, died at his home there suddenly April 8, after being confined to his home for three days. He was successively a member of these insurance firms: Welch, Ten Eyck & Clapp; Welch, Ten Eyck & Lansing, and later of Ten Eyck & Lansing. He was sixty-seven years of age. Under the firm name of Ten Eyck & Lansing the business will be conducted by Mr. Ten Eyck's son-in-law, Edgar M. Griffiths.

Mr. Charles H. Watson, secretary of the Northwestern Mutual Life insurance company, died on Saturday at Milwaukee from paralysis and pneumonia. While bowling at the Recreation Club April 2 he suffered a stroke of paralysis. He was improving, apparently, when pneumonia developed. He was sixty-three years old, and was with the Northwestern Mutual for thirty years. He entered the service as a clerk, and was advanced to the position of secretary.

Mr. H. H. Hoyt, who six months ago resigned as superintendent of agents in Illinois and Wisconsin for the Equitable Life, to become third vice president and general manager of the Chicago Life, has resigned, as have several others who quit the Equitable when Mr. Hoyt did. Friction among the company's officers is reported.

Mr. C. B. Hargrove, a former Enterprise, Ala., agent of the Mutual Benefit Life, who later went with the Michigan Mutual, was accidentally killed there while hunting on April 7. His gun was discharged while climbing a fence. Accident insurance amounting to $5,000 was carried by him.

Lawyer Matthew C. Fleming, of the Armstrong Committee, is the favorite candidate of the committee for insurance superintendent of New York, and has the indorsement also of Charles E. Hughes and Senator Tully. He is now engaged as advisory counsel to District Attorney Jerome.

Mr. John J. Williams, who since November last has been general agent for southern Wisconsin for the National Life of Vermont, has been given the agency for the entire State, with headquarters at Milwaukee. He was five years with the Equitable Life of New York.

Captain Samuel B. Adams, senior member of the Little Rock, Ark., insurance firm of Adams & Boyle, has retired after thirty years' service. Mr. John E. Coates, a successful Little Rock local agent, has entered the firm, and the firm name will not be changed.

President Benjamin F. Stevens, of the New England Mutual Life, celebrated the fifty-ninth anniversary of his service with the company on April 9. Mr. Stevens is eighty-two years old, but hale and can be found at his desk every day.

Mr. S. R. Burky, general agent of the Camden Fire for the Middle Northwest, with headquarters at Pittsburgh, died April 16. He was formerly special agent of the German of Freeport for Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Mr. C. N. Miller, State agent at Des Moines, Ia., for twenty-four years of the American of Philadelphia, has resigned to connect himself with the Iowa State of Keokuk.

Secretary J. C. Griswold, of the Texas Fire Prevention Association, will retire soon to become special agent of the Liverpool and London and Globe in the Southwest.

Messrs. J. Ramsay Barry & Co. will represent the Traders of Chicago in Baltimore, beginning May 1, succeeding Charles K. Abrahams, resigned.

Official Reports.

New York Fire Insurance Report.

The first part of the forty-seventh report of the Superintendent of Insurance of the State of New York was issued this week by Superintendent Hendricks. The following are extracts:

Table IX is an exhibit of the business done in New York by the joint stock fire companies of this and other States and countries, and by the mutuals of this and other States.

The fire premiums received were $37,742,264.55; fire losses paid, $16,817,998.25; fire losses incurred, $17,469,902.83; showing an apparent net excess of fire premiums received over fire losses incurred of $20,272,361.72.

The estimated expense for the transaction of this business is $12,580,754.85, which if added to the incurred losses makes a total of $30,050,657.68. On this basis the excess of fire premiums received over fire losses incurred and estimated expenses is shown in the following classified exhibit:

Companies.	Excess of Fire Premiums Received Over Fire Losses Incurred and Estimated Expenses.
New York State	$2,469,239.64
Other States	2,952,835.25
Other Countries	2,269,531.98
Total	$7,691,606.87

The amount of fire risks written in 1904 was $4,572,597,504; in 1905, $4,859,758,018, an increase of $287,160,514. The amount of marine and inland risks written in 1904 was $478,097,998; in 1905, $500,307,330, an increase of $22,209,332.

COMPANIES AUTHORIZED.

Table X gives a complete list of all the fire, fire-marine and marine insurance companies entitled to transact business in this State, arranged in alphabetical order, with the names of their officers. The total number of companies shown in this list is as follows:

	Fire and Fire Marine.	Marine.
New York Joint Stock	47	1
Other States' Joint Stock	79	1
New York Mutual	5	1
Other States' Mutual	1	..
Foreign Joint Stock	32	12
Totals	164	15

GENERAL SUMMARY.

At the close of the year 1905 the fire, fire-marine and marine insurance companies doing business in this State were possessed of $445,517,342 of admitted assets, not including assets held abroad nor premium notes of mutual companies, an increase of $42,445,785 as compared with 1904. The liabilities of these companies, excepting scrip and capital, were $229,816,836, an increase of $15,529,920 over the return of the preceding year. The income was $255,182,428, and the disbursements were $219,346,846, an increase, as compared with 1904, of $5,584,351 in income, and a decrease of $12,983,387 in disburse-

ments. The whole number of companies reporting in 1905 was 179, being fourteen more than in 1904.

BUSINESS OF 1904 AND 1905 COMPARED.

The following table shows a comparison of the business of 1904 with the business of 1905:

NEW YORK JOINT STOCK FIRE COMPANIES.

	1904.	1905.
Number of companies	44	47
Assets	$113,785,890	$127,673,873
Liabilities, except capital	53,329,577	57,981,926
Capital	18,850,000	19,550,000
Surplus	41,606,312	50,141,947
Premiums written	55,573,885	59,335,727
Total income	61,450,393	65,693,949
Losses paid	33,821,819	27,790,044
Dividends paid	3,030,927	2,770,538
Total disbursements	57,821,479	52,499,154
Risks in force	8,152,849,797	8,848,936,499

JOINT STOCK FIRE COMPANIES OF OTHER STATES.

	1904.	1905.
Number of companies	68	79
Assets	$179,389,677	$204,193,545
Liabilities, except capital	93,354,263	103,212,634
Capital	37,475,375	40,102,875
Surplus	48,560,039	60,918,676
Premiums written	95,834,499	104,556,387
Total income	104,351,944	113,441,361
Losses paid	57,346,152	49,924,867
Dividends paid	4,503,678	4,990,663
Total disbursements	97,850,729	95,019,910
Risks in force	11,869,223,627	13,371,930,669

FOREIGN FIRE COMPANIES OF OTHER COUNTRIES—UNITED STATES BRANCHES.

	1904.	1905.
Number of companies	32	32
Assets	$86,772,292	$89,751,951
Liabilities	52,885,801	53,626,515
Excess of assets over liabilities	33,886,491	36,125,436
Premiums written	60,983,308	59,127,767
Total income	72,664,313	64,239,902
Losses paid	39,927,657	30,456,873
Total disbursements	66,396,657	60,876,165
Risks in force	7,828,899,430	8,092,727,616

The results of the fire business during the past year, as compared with 1904, show that the assets have increased some $41,730,000. The increase in risks written by fire companies over the previous year was $1,411,485,766. The increase in fire and inland insurance in force over the previous year was $2,472,641,816. The liabilities, except capital, have increased some $15,237,000. The capital has been increased $3,327,500. The net surplus has increased $23,205,000, which increase is in a measure due to the very considerable advance in market value of investments. The incurred losses have decreased approximately $23,500,000. The increase of income has amounted to about $5,000,000, while the decrease in disbursements has amounted to $13,800,000.

These figures indicate that the increased values of the companies' holdings, taken in connection with a percentage of the savings in losses incurred, have been carried into the companies' surpluses, thus affording to the insured the additional safety of accumulated funds. In previous reports I have taken occasion to commend the wisdom of that prudent and conservative policy followed by the companies in recent years in accumulating sufficient and ample surplus funds to provide for extraordinary losses when great conflagrations occur and the above showing indicates that that wise policy is being carried out by the companies.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Iowa.

DES MOINES, Ia., April 13.—Senator George W. Dunham has declined to serve on the legislative insurance investigation commission, giving as the reason that he cannot afford the time from his personal business. Either Senator Warren or Senator Molsberry may replace him. The other members of the commission are Senator Jamison and Representatives Kendall, Olson and Clary.

Massachusetts.

On Monday the Special Advisory Commission on Insurance of Massachusetts reported to the Legislature of that State the completion of the formal part of its work, namely, the codification of the revised insurance laws of 1901, with the additions and amendments thereto enacted since then. The same afternoon Governor Guild transmitted the following special message, urging the Legislature to defer its life insurance deliberations and extend the life of the commission to the next General Court:

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

I have the honor to call your attention to the accompanying communication from the commission to recodify the insurance laws authorized by a resolve of the present year to serve in an advisory capacity to the executive and to the Joint Legislative Committee on Insurance.

In my inaugural address I called attention to the fact that the revelations as to the practices of the great life insurance companies of New York had roused the country to just indignation. that certain fraternal orders had met in convention to suggest reforms; that the insurance commissioners of the various States had met, and were again to meet, and that committees of policyholders of the great New York companies had organized and were later to report their findings.

At this time it was thought that the recommendations in regard to uniform life insurance legislation, which it was expected would be made by the convention to be held in Chicago in February, would be available before this date. This convention was composed of governors, attorneys general and insurance commissioners or representatives designated by them, and was participated in by Massachusetts. The convention was adjourned to September, after having appointed a sub-committee to draft recommendations for much needed reforms.

The next General Court should, in my judgment, consider the findings of this national insurance convention, and as any legislation on the subject of life insurance passed this year might need to be reviewed in the light of such recommendations, I suggest that your honorable bodies consider whether it may not be well to extend the life of the commission appointed under resolve of the present Legislature, with instructions to report to the next General Court what legislation is needed to make our present laws concerning life insurance correspond to the uniform legislation that may be recommended in September for the whole country, together with such additional legislation as the commission may deem wise.

Grave matters which demand wide reaching reform might possibly be acted upon at once, if we choose to do so, but I respectfully suggest to your honorable bodies that a more thorough reform may be obtained, and hopes for the enactment of more durable and uniform laws may be realized if new legislation be postponed until after the completion of the inquiries and the report of the national insurance convention.

This course has already been pursued in Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland and Ohio, whose legislatures have already adjourned after deferring life insurance legislation until the insurance convention has made its report. I am informed that no State, except New York, has attempted to act in advance of this report, and those persons best qualified to express an opinion upon the conditions of legislation in that State believe that bills pending in the New York Legislature may, if passed now, require revision next year.

The report of the special commission to recodify the insurance laws submits such recodification in three proposed bills. The report contains no changes of existing law, but is merely a codification of the amendments and any new laws which have been enacted by the Legislature since the revision of the laws in 1901. The commission is now at work upon the suggestions that have been submitted to it for new legislation. In regard to other matters submitted to it the commission asked for more time.

Mississippi.

The Alcorn bill for a fire prevention bureau passed the Senate on April 14, having previously passed the House. The Insurance Commissioner is to be the fire marshal.

The anti-trust bill, modeled on the Arkansas law and containing the extraterritorial feature, was killed in the House by a vote of 50 to 24.

The insurance code bill is now in the hands of the Gov-

ernor. No other insurance bill than those above mentioned was passed. The Commissioner goes on a salary after January, 1907. The Legislature finally adjourns on Saturday, April 21.

New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., April 15.—Notwithstanding the big investigation in New York, and the consequent outcry in many States against life insurance conditions and the apparent lack of legislation touching them, the Legislature of New Jersey did very little business along this line in the session just closed. Only two bills were passed, although a number of insurance measures were introduced and an investigation was demanded by the Colby following. While their efforts failed, the administration leaders, near the close of the session, decided that after all an investigation might be advisable, in view of the action that was being taken by other States, and such a proposition was then agreed upon. This investigation is to be conducted in time to be concluded before the convening of the next Legislature, and a report on the findings will be made to the latter body. The inquiry into insurance affairs will be made by Senator Thomas J. Hillery, of Morris County; Senator Edmund W. Wakelee, of Bergen, and Senator James F. Minturn, of Hudson. Mr. Minturn is a Democrat. Messrs. Hillery and Wakelee are Republicans. They are empowered to employ counsel, summon witnesses and to have full and free access to all the files and records of the State Department of Banking and Insurance. Accompanying their report they are to recommend whatever changes in the present insurance laws they deem advisable.

The two insurance bills passed are not such as will work any hardship on insurance companies. One of them, introduced by Assemblyman Martin, provides that all insurance companies in New Jersey shall be taxed on the full value of their property, excepting real estate, debts and other liabilities. Insurance men generally claim it will compel them to do no more than they have been doing in the past. The Martin bill was House No. 498. It was referred to the Judiciary Committee and was finally passed April 12, the day of adjournment.

The other bill passed was Senate No. 34, introduced January 22 by Mr. Minturn. It passed the Senate February 13 and the House about two weeks later. It is an amendment to the fire insurance law, and provides that the tax paid by insurance companies to any firemen's relief association shall be considered as a part or the whole of the 2 per cent. required to be paid under the law.

Other measures of interest to insurance men included joint resolutions in the Senate and House, by Messrs. Colby and Martin, respectively, directing an investigation under the auspices of the Legislature. The House resolution was never reported. A hearing was given on the Senate resolution, and the Colbyites failed to show that there was any general demand for an investigation. The insurance people also showed that there was no need for such an inquiry. Mr. Colby admitted that he was after the Prudential insurance company, of which his political adversary, United States Senator Dryden, is the head. The Senate committee reported the resolution adversely, and the report was sustained on the floor in spite of the opposition of Mr. Colby.

Senate Bill No. 48 required that all insurance policies should be fully explained to the purchasers. This bill was never reported from committee.

Senate Bill No. 94 required all insurance companies to make sworn statements annually concerning their business. This was never reported by committee.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 15, by Mr. Minturn, directed an investigation of the alleged "fire insurance trust." Not reported.

Senate No. 177, by Mr. Minturn, allowed municipalities to create their own insurance funds. Not reported.

Assemblyman Miller, of Cumberland, secured the passage in the House of a resolution for the purchase of copies of the New York insurance investigation testimony and reports and copies of the New York insurance bills, but the Senate took no cognizance of the resolution and no appropriation was made for the purpose.

No other insurance matters were considered, the general impression among the members of the Legislature being that the laws of the State afford ample protection to the policyholders in all kinds of companies. Considerable interest attaches, however, to the investigation the Senate committee is to make. No time has yet been set for the beginning of this inquiry.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 16.—The Senate spent the entire session tonight in considering the perjury bill of the Armstrong Committee. The bill was opposed by Senators Grady, Smith and Marks. Senator Grady moved to strike out the enacting clause, contending that the bill overturned the entire rule of American evidence, by placing the burden of proof of innocence on the defendant instead of making the prosecution prove the guilt. He maintained that the existing perjury law was sufficiently strong to cover all cases.

The bill was defended by Senators Armstrong and Hinman, while Senator Elsberg was in doubt. It was not until just before midnight that a vote was reached.

The bill narrowly escaped defeat, receiving just the required number of votes on the first roll call. Finally it was passed by a vote of 28 to 16.

The bill which has created so much opposition adds a new section to the penal code, reading as follows:

In any prosecution for perjury the falsity of the testimony or statement set forth in the indictment shall be presumptively established by proof that the defendant has testified, declared, deposed or certified under oath to the contrary thereof in any other written testimony, declaration, deposition, certificate, affidavit or other writing by him subscribed.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 18.—The general life insurance bill, the last of the Armstrong batch to be considered by the Senate, was taken up for passage today. All amendments were voted down until the section regulating the publication of lists of policyholders of mutual life insurance companies was reached. This section provided for the filing of two complete lists of policyholders, with their addresses alphabetically arranged and classified by States and Territories and foreign countries, with the Superintendent of Insurance of New York, and two similar lists with each general agent in every State, Territory and foreign country, said lists to be subject to inspection by any policyholder or his authorized representative.

Senator Horace White offered the following amendment to this section:

At any time and from time to time within five months prior to each such election every domestic corporation whose policyholders are entitled to vote for directors, upon request of 100 or more qualified voters thereof, who have made or who contemplate making nominations for one or more vacancies in the board of trustees to be filled at such election, shall, with all reasonable promptness and dispatch, cause to be addressed and mailed to each policyholder thereof, or to each policyholder in any locality designated by such 100 or more qualified voters, at his last known post office address, any and every communication which such 100 or more qualified voters may furnish it for that purpose, securely enclosed in appropriate envelopes, each having thereon sufficient post-

age prepaid by them; this provision, however, not to apply to the holders of industrial policies.

Over this amendment there was a long and bitter contest. Senator Armstrong declared that if it should be adopted it would destroy the keystone of the insurance reform structure. All legislation that was passed would be rendered ineffective by the amendment to "prevent the administrations of the companies from electing their own successors." With their gigantic organization of agents they would upset "any policyholders' movement."

In arguing for his amendment Senator White declared that it would be almost physically impossible for the companies to carry out the bill's requirements as to filing lists of policyholders. Even if it were done, he said, it would only open the way to greater evils than those existing now, since the honest policyholders would fall into the hands of scheming adventurers or the financial powers, who, by the liberal use of money and the creation of a machine, could obtain the necessary proxies to swing the election.

The vote on the adoption of the amendment was as follows:

FOR THE AMENDMENT.

Republicans—Brown, Burr, Carpenter, Cassidy, Cobb, Coggeshall, Cooper, Davis, Drescher, Fancher, Fechter, Gardner, Gates, Hill, Hinman, L'Hommedieu, Malby, White, Wilcox—19.

Democrats—Frawley, Grady, Hasenflug, Hawkins, Kehoe, Martin, McCarren—7.

AGAINST THE AMENDMENT.

Republicans—Allds, Armstrong, Barnes, Brackett, Cordts, Elsberg, Goodsell, Lewis, McEwan, Page, Prime, Raines, Saxe, Smith, Stevens, Tully, Warnick—17.

Democrats—Cullen, Fitzgerald, Foley, Keenan, Marks, Quinn, Riordan—7.

It was therefore adopted by a vote of ayes 26, noes 24.

Senator Armstrong announced that he would make an effort tomorrow to secure a reconsideration of the vote by which the amendment was adopted.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 19.—The Assembly this afternoon advanced to third reading Assemblyman A. E. Smith's bill to prevent fire insurance companies entering into or maintaining pools, trust conspiracies or agreements to control rates of insurance.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 19.—The Governor has signed four of the Armstrong bills which passed the Assembly last week and went through the Senate this week. The following is the text of each:

An act to amend the general corporation law relative to the acquisition of real property by life insurance corporations.

Sec. 1. Section 13 of the general corporation law, being Chapter 687 of the laws of 1892, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 13. Acquisition of Additional Real Property.—When any corporation, except a life insurance corporation, shall have sold or conveyed any part of its real property, the Supreme Court may, notwithstanding any restriction of a general or special law, authorize it to purchase and hold from time to time other real property, upon satisfactory proof that the value of the property so purchased does not exceed the value of the property so sold and conveyed within three years next preceding the application.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

An act to amend the penal code relating to rebates and allowances by life insurance corporations.

Sec. 1. The penal code is hereby amended by adding new section thereto, to be known as Section 577-k, to read as follows:

Sec. 577-k. Any person knowingly receiving any rebate or allowance or deduction from any premium, or any valuable thing, special favor or advantage whatever, as an inducement to take any policy of life insurance, not specified in the policy, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect on the 1st day of September, 1906.

An act to amend the stock corporation law relative to the qualification of directors.

Sec. 1. Section 20 of Chapter 36 of the general laws, known as the stock corporation law, being Chapter 688 of the laws of 1892, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 20. Directors.—The directors of every stock corporation shall be chosen at the time and place fixed by the bylaws of the corporation by a plurality of the votes at such election. Each director shall be a stockholder unless otherwise provided in the certificate, or in a bylaw adopted by a stockholders' meeting.

Vacancies in the board of directors shall be filled in the manner prescribed in the bylaws. Notice of time and place of holding any election of directors shall be given by publication thereof, at least once in each week for two successive weeks immediately preceding such election, in a newspaper published in the county where such election is to be held, and in such other manner as may be prescribed in the bylaws. Policyholders of an insurance corporation shall be eligible to election as directors, whether or not they be stockholders. At least one-fourth in number of the directors of every stock corporation shall be elected annually.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

An act to amend the general corporation law relative to political contributions by corporations.

Sec. 1. The general corporation law is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section, to be known as Section 41, to read as follows:

Sec. 41. No corporation or joint stock association doing business in this State, except a corporation or association organized or maintained for political purposes only, shall directly or indirectly pay or use or offer, consent or agree to pay or use any money or property for or in aid of any political party, committee or organization, or for, or in aid of, any corporation, joint stock or other association organized or maintained for political purposes, or for, or in aid of, any candidate for political office or for nomination for such office, or for any political purpose whatever, or for the reimbursement or indemnification of any person for moneys or property so used. Any officer, director, stockholder, attorney or agent of any corporation or joint stock association which violates any of the provisions of this section, who participates in, aids, abets or advises or consents to any such violation, and any person who solicits or knowingly receives any money or property in violation of this section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punishable by imprisonment in a penitentiary or county jail for not more than one year and a fine of not more than $1,000. No person shall be excused from attending and testifying, or producing any books, papers or other documents before any court or magistrate, upon any investigation, proceeding or trial, for a violation of any of the provisions of this section, upon the ground or for the reason that the testimony, or evidence, documentary or otherwise, required of him may tend to convict him of a crime or to subject him to a penalty or forfeiture; but no person shall be prosecuted or subjected to any penalty or forfeiture for or on account of any transaction, matter or thing concerning which he may so testify or produce evidence, documentary or otherwise, and no testimony so given or produced shall be received against him upon any criminal investigation or proceeding.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 20.—The Governor has signed the Armstrong Committee bill, Senate No. 1,157, which strengthens the section of the penal code against willful falsifications of records or reports of corporations.

The Senate today reversed its action of Wednesday when it struck out from the general insurance bill the requirement that mutual life companies must open lists of policyholders to public inspection. The bill now has been restored by the Senate to its original form.

Senator Armstrong offered the following amendment to the bill, which was adopted by a vote of 37 to 4: After "representative" insert "during the five months prior to such elections; provided, however, that after such elections, or if no candidate shall have been nominated other than those nominated by the board of directors, then after the time for such independent nominations shall have expired, such list

may be withdrawn by the corporation filing and maintaining the same as aforesaid; and thereafter, prior to the said election, new lists shall be filed and maintained, subject to inspection and copy, as above provided, which may be similarly withdrawn"; also, insert after "copy" the words "and withdrawal." The bill is to be further debated by the Senate this afternoon.

Ohio.

The legislative commission to investigate insurance conditions in Ohio and report to the next Legislature met at Columbus on Tuesday. Representative Earl Stewart, of Springfield, was made chairman, and Senator P. W. Ward, of Cleveland, secretary. The other members are Senators Berry and Mather and Representatives Ritter and Pears.

United States Congress.

President Roosevelt on Tuesday transmitted to Congress a message relating to insurance legislation. Accompanying the message were the report and recommendations of the insurance convention which was held in Chicago last February. Among the recommendations is the draft of a bill which Congress is urged to enact into law, with such amendments as its wisdom may suggest. The text of the message follows:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit the report and recommendations, with accompanying papers, of the insurance convention which met in February last at Chicago. The convention was called because of the extraordinary disclosures of wrongful insurance methods recently made by the Armstrong Legislative Committee of the State of New York, the suggestion that it should be called, coming to me originally from Governor John A. Johnson, of Minnesota, through Commissioner of Insurance Thomas D. O'Brien, of that State.

The convention consisted of about 100 governors, attorneys general and commissioners of insurance of the States and Territories of the Union. The convention was seeking to accomplish uniformity of insurance legislation throughout the States and Territories, and as a prime step toward this purpose decided to endeavor to secure the enactment by the Congress of the United States of a proper insurance code for the District of Columbia, which might serve as a model for the several States. Before adjourning the convention appointed a committee of three attorneys general and twelve commissioners of insurance of the various States to prepare and have presented to the Congress a bill which should embody the features suggested by the convention.

The committee recently met in Chicago, and in thorough and painstaking fashion sought to prepare a bill which should be at once protective of policyholders and fair and just to insurance companies, and which should prevent the graver evils and abuses of the business, and at the same time forestall any wild or drastic legislation which would be more harmful than beneficial. The proposed bill is discussed at length in the accompanying letter by Superintendent Thomas E. Drake, of the Department of Insurance in the District of Columbia.

I very earnestly hope that the Congress at the earliest opportunity will enact this bill into law, with such changes as its wisdom may indicate. I have no expert familiarity with the business, but I have entire faith in the right judgment and single minded purpose of the insurance convention which met at Chicago and of the committee of that convention which formulated the measure herein advocated. We are not to be pardoned if we fail to take every step in our power to prevent the possibility of the repetition of such scandals as those that have occurred in connection with the insurance business as disclosed by the Armstrong committee.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

The bill recommended by the President was drafted by amending that introduced in Congress by Representative Ames. It provides for the establishment of an insurance bureau in the Department of Commerce and Labor, and for the appointment of a commissioner who shall have no official connection with any insurance company, or who shall not be interested in the business of any company except as a policyholder. The commissioner is required at least once in three years to examine all companies doing business in the District of Columbia. Forms are prescribed for the issuance of annual statements and the commissioner is authorized to demand other information from the companies if he believes it necessary.

If, upon examination, the commissioner is of the opinion that any domestic insurance company is insolvent or has exceeded its powers or is in any manner transacting business contrary to the provisions of this act, the bill provides the commissioner shall lay the facts before the Attorney General, who may apply to the Supreme Court of the District for an injunction restraining its further business. Under the same conditions he is authorized to revoke the certificate of a foreign insurance company.

A minimum capital stock of $50,000 is proposed for accident companies, $100,000 for plate glass and elevator insurance, and $200,000 for all other companies. It limits the investment of capital stock. Companies may also be organized on a preliminary stock plan. Directors are made liable for any illegal investments, and companies are not permitted to do both a participating and non-participating business.

The bill contains a plan whereby all policyholders shall be enabled to participate through proxies in the election of directors at the annual meetings. The salaries of all officers and agents over $5,000 a year must be authorized by a vote of the board of directors of the insurance corporation. Pensions cannot be voted to a member of the family of an officer after his death, and disbursements of over $100 require properly itemized vouchers.

The bill prohibits rebating of portions of premiums and discrimination between classes of insured. Standard forms of policies are prescribed. A policy cannot be forfeited after the payment of two full annual premiums. No insurance company which issues a contract the performance of which is contingent upon the payment of assessments made upon survivors shall do business within the District.

Provision is also made for fire, marine, casualty, title, fidelity and surety insurance companies in the bill. All insurance companies, their officers or agents, are prohibited from making political contributions.

In a letter commenting on the bill Thomas E. Drake, Superintendent of the Department of Insurance for the District of Columbia, says that it makes few changes from the general and ordinary provisions of law in force in the various States.

Miscellany.

A Peculiar Fire.

Rather unusual circumstances attended a fire in the machine shop of the York, Pa., Manufacturing Company on March 12, and none more peculiar than its origin, which was due to the wrecking of a gas meter by a flame shooting from a badly adjusted gasoline burner. A loss of from $10,000 to $15,000 followed this fire, which is described as follows in the March report of the Boston Manufacturers' Mutual Fire, although that company was not interested in a pecuniary sense:

In the summer of 1905 a large vacant space adjoining the old pattern shop, now occupied as a storehouse for cans, had been covered by a frame building. The work carried on in this building is the manufacturing of galvanized iron tanks for use in artificial ice machines; also the general plumbing business of the establishment was carried on here. It ap-

(Continued on page 303.)

Life Insurance Business in Louisiana in 1905.

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Equitable, N. Y.	1,028	$2,363,103	8,417	$27,633,918	$1,012,243	$343,623
Fidelity Mutual	369	1,003,457	1,179	3,057,644	97,988	17,434
Franklin, Ill	302	467,174	935	1,525,272	52,900	9,067
Germania	20	44,806	297	970,216	34,813	3,000
Home Life	92	323,588	624	1,586,539	60,193	2,000
Illinois Life	147	410,818	338	835,993	26,795	3,000
Metropolitan	1,035	969,911	3,693	3,922,884	557,784	39,720
Minnesota Mutual	6	13,000	66	264,600	8,985	1,000
Missouri State	167	296,708	227	413,896	12,003	4,417
Mutual Life, N. Y.	1,727	3,079,420	10,925	24,964,093	856,994	345,941
New England Mut.	159	432,507	976	3,253,280	93,703	14,000
New York Life	2,922	5,725,528	15,143	36,259,266	1,241,300	407,012
Pacific Mutual	804	1,379,673	2,834	5,252,163	186,649	27,852
Penn Mutual	692	1,717,698	3,423	10,328,984	386,272	60,095
Provident Savings	111	278,268	859	2,652,300	96,863	25,500
Prudential	230	659,651	1,189	3,243,596	116,047	27,100
Security Mutual	67	118,641	153	278,293	8,314	5,000
Security T. and L.	6	9,750	223	386,106	19,551	2,000
Travelers	11	41,500	456	1,809,671	53,570	10,364
Union Central	202	737,050	1,240	4,947,638	177,694	32,119
Wisconsin	55	74,250	51	72,250	2,554	------
Totals	10,152	$20,146,503	53,248	$133,658,602	$5,103,223	$1,380,244

INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE BUSINESS IN 1905.

Life Ins. Co. of Va.	25,327	$2,565,726	82,760	$8,846,951	------	$102,398
Metropolitan, N. Y.	24,226	3,771,987	87,506	13,184,591	------	137,997
Totals	49,553	$6,337,713	170,266	$22,031,542	------	$240,395
Grand Totals, 1905.	59,705	$26,484,216	223,514	$155,690,144	$5,103,223	$1,620,639
" 1904.	61,287	34,626,242	206,520	127,155,208	5,228,346	1,843,582
" 1903.	56,392	31,464,955	185,319	131,874,445	4,612,881	1,519,291
" 1902.	61,348	30,793,604	166,469	118,507,601	4,053,363	1,131,741
" 1901.	55,912	27,958,105	151,595	104,892,138	3,564,986	1,105,203
" 1900.	------	27,742,022	------	92,921,475	3,232,475	1,160,357
" 1899.	54,711	20,374,628	115,118	79,607,168	2,732,163	1,507,808
" 1898.	63,871	21,462,151	104,001	72,709,810	2,494,297	1,127,034
" 1897.	54,399	19,120,246	86,202	65,098,760	2,345,438	658,949

Life Insurance Business in Wyoming in 1905.

(Compiled from a Statement by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Number.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna	$33,560	$181,050	$8,422	$3,320
Bankers Reserve	30,000	30,000	1,049	------
Conservative, Cal	150,975	260,735	13,657	2,000
Equitable, N. Y	260,100	986,433	34,535	7,000
Germania	77,500	259,233	12,107	2,000
Hartford	------	83,600	1,456	------
Mutual Benefit	30,464	86,978	2,497	------
Mutual Life, New York	385,855	2,741,380	77,882	12,250
National U. S. A	32,533	61,233	2,976	------
National, Vt	56.192	316,215	12,173	------
New York Life	776,575	4,885,456	166,642	18,250
Northwestern Mutual	162,000	1,245,026	37,414	2,150
Pacific Mutual	2,557	50,727	1,075	------
Penn Mutual	39,000	206,692	7,340	10,000
Provident Savings	107,068	298,838	9,042	------
Prudential, Newark	124,987	425,010	17,699	1,000
Reliance Life	------	1,000	64	------
Security Mutual	12,250	20,250	623	------
Security Trust and Life	------	9,248	593	------
State Life, Indianapolis	26,500	181,500	7,514	------
Travelers	------	4,600	62	2,213
Union Central	39,000	43,750	1,494	------
Union Mutual	102,885	813,648	33,894	2,000
United States	------	14,500	153	------
Washington	2,000	29,643	1,383	1,191
Totals, 1905	$2,452,001	$13,236,745	$451,746	$63,374
" 1904	2,914,075	12,949,778	461,817	108,209
" 1903	3,393,529	11,874,220	417,800	144,754
" 1902	3,357,987	10,416,992	367,005	106,945
" 1901	1,898,965	7,985,461	287,071	145,898
" 1900	1,842,000	6,782,857	222,497	38,903
" 1899	1,474,527	5,269,741	170,064	77,468
" 1898	791,363	4,482,335	135,940	17,240

Fire Insurance Business in Wyoming in 1905.

(From a Statement by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle.	$76,700	$1,548	$923
Ætna, Hartford	136,825	2,829	495
Alliance, London	244,725	5,094	520
American Central, St. Louis	63,830	1,049	67
Atlas, London	337,996	6,972	68
British America, Toronto	173,550	3,197	625
Commercial Union, London	285,698	7,415	711
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	98,538	1,734	164
Continental, New York	178,825	3,349	328
Fire Association of Philadelphia	490,434	11,286	1,274
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	1,177,153	24,295	5,843
German Alliance, New York	106,950	2,570	2
German American, New York	545,763	10,360	2,261
Germania Fire, New York	57,450	1,218	------
Home, New York	853,544	13,180	1,762
Home Fire and Marine, San Francisco	350,020	7,604	2,379
Hanover Fire, New York	92,775	1,827	796
Hartford Fire, Hartford	572,252	9,515	986
Insurance Company of N. America	334,678	6,802	1,199
Law Union and Crown, London	98,608	1,061	1
Liverpool and London and Globe, Liv.	853,450	14,505	605
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	209,283	4,442	38
London Assurance Corporation	120,675	2,187	465
National Fire, Hartford	354,501	8,113	528
National Union Fire, Pittsburgh	14,000	226	------
New Zealand, Auckland	93,850	1,877	405
Niagara Fire, New York	230,116	5,409	2,503
North British and Mercantile, London	284,668	6,223	1,229
Northern, London	153,338	3,632	388
Northwestern National F., Milwaukee.	54,925	737	------
Norwich Union, Norwich	145,727	3,025	1,107
Orient, Hartford	122,750	2,592	97
Palatine, London	117,016	2,376	493
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	153,190	2,871	806
Phenix, Brooklyn	359,787	9,393	1,726
Phoenix, London	221,600	4,538	274
Phoenix, Hartford	139,790	2,665	918
Providence-Washington, Providence	265,934	3,975	1,122
Queen, New York	163,533	3,563	584
Royal, Liverpool	318,957	6,389	1,314
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	168,848	3,288	120
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh.	262,924	5,014	2,002
Springfield Fire and Marine, Springf'd	459,026	8,768	582
Sun, London	81,512	1,245	311
Svea, Gothenburg	184,757	3,472	85
Traders, Chicago	111,139	2,357	84
Union, London	134,410	3,282	1,762
Westchester, New York	34,808	496	311
Western, Toronto	250,593	3,281	1,069
Totals, 1905	$12,341,421	$242,845	$41,329
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$11,006,292	$227,632	$46,556
1903	11,004,711	226,936	87,170
1902	9,434,893	200,980	66,336
1901	9,716,347	196,565	42,992
1900	6,893,412	143,772	44,596
1899	6,606,063	126,032	39,726
1898	6,116,158	123,507	28,310
1897	5,786,908	121,850	37,054
1896	6,907,890	121,083	24,066
1895	6,116,411	124,949	121,181
1894	6,922,024	132,262	51,540
1893	6,664,001	132,467	69,321
1892	6,114,261	114,433	25,070
1891	6,673,206	127,516	46,373
1880 to 1890	50,491,298	876,490	314,727

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 33.4. The percentage in 1905 was 17.0.

(Continued from page 302.)

pears that gasoline plumbers' furnaces and torches were in quite general use in this building. These furnaces consist of a can holding about 20 gallons of gasoline, having on the top an outlet which supplies four burners. These burners give out from time to time, and in replacing one of them the indications are that in screwing the burner in the thread was badly damaged.

At 9:30 a. m. the burner suddenly let go and a jet of burning gasoline shot across against the gas meter located on the wooden wall of the building. This meter quickly gave way, thus allowing the gas to flow freely from a 2 inch pipe. This gas immediately ignited and spread the flames throughout the building. The only shut-off on the gas pipe mentioned was inside the building, and it was some time before the same could be closed. Meanwhile the flames had spread throughout the building, so that two-thirds of the roof and of the monitor, the elevator tower and galleries are badly charred and a considerable portion of same will have to be rebuilt. The old brick pattern house was equipped with auto-

matic sprinklers, nine of which opened and kept the fire from entering that building through the doors and windows. The sprinkler equipment for the can shop had arrived on the premises and would have been installed shortly. As soon as the fire occurred the alarm was given. Same was responded to by both the mill and city fire departments. The mill department brought four hose streams into play and the city two. The fire was extinguished after about two hours' duration. The principal item of loss is on galvanized sheet metal, which lay in large piles 5 or 6 feet in depth. The water so damaged this metal by corrosion that it could not be used for the purpose intended. The management state that immediate orders will be given for the removal from their premises of all similar gasoline furnaces. Outside valves controlling the gas supply will also be installed; waterproof covers will be provided for piles of galvanized sheet metal to prevent recurrence of water damage.

Investigation of the Northwestern Mutual Life.

The legislative investigation of the Northwestern Mutual Life has been in progress this week; and so far the only matter of particular interest that has been developed has been the practice of the company in making loans on policies of members of the company. Among the charges made in reference to this practice is the following:

Loans have been made by the officers of the company and their relatives on insurance policies at a much higher rate of interest than loans made by the company itself. In other words the extra 1, 2, 3 and even 4 per cent. interest that has been obtained by private individuals has gone into the pockets of these persons instead of into the treasury of the company to be used for the benefit of the policyholders.

In reference to the above Mr. R. R. Reid, a New York branch agent of the company, makes the following statement:

The charter of the company restricts loans made by the company to 90 per cent. of the reserve. Loans on tontine policies are made, therefore, by outsiders for much larger sums, and the custom at the present time by the outsiders is to charge 6 per cent., and the maker of these loans will be obliged to continue premiums—in case of default by the insured—until the contract matures in order to obtain the tontine profit. This custom has enabled Northwestern policyholders to obtain larger loans against their contracts than would have been possible otherwise. In this manner only could loans in excess of the reserve be made.

In respect of this loan feature, the charge that there has been discrimination in interest rates and that the tontine policies have failed to mature in accordance with estimates, John I. D. Bristol, manager of the New York city agency of the Northwestern Mutual Life, says:

First—Loans made by officers of the company and their relatives on insurance policies at a much higher rate of interest than upon loans by the company itself are among thousands of such loans made upon the reserves and estimated surplus of tontine policies. The company, even if making policies at that time, could loan only upon the reserve of the policy. Naturally, these individual loans were at a high rate of interest and included the possibilities of premium payments for years in order to realize upon the surplus by retaining the policies in force to the expiration of the tontine accumulated period.

Second—Every one knows that the surplus under tontine policies did not meet estimates. Every Northwestern agent is, however, very eager to compare Northwestern results under these policies with the results of similar policies in all other companies.

Third—The officers naturally controlled the elections of the company. In seven years as high as 13,000 votes were cast by New York city policyholders. Those policyholders could have voted for a better management, could such have been found.

Fourth—The company's rate of interest is higher on the smaller policy loans. The management in this have mainly in mind the proper expense adjustment in connection with the loaning business of the company with its policyholders. That the Northwestern tontine policies have not earned the guarantee of the company is absurd. All the policies that have matured have earned a large surplus additional to their guaranteed reserve, and the company's present undivided tontine surplus included among the company's liabilities is a sum of many millions of dollars.

Dr. W. A. Fricke, former Insurance Commissioner of Wisconsin, has sent the following communication to Mr. Bristol since the appearance of the above statements in the press:

In re New York Press, April 16. That is not the correct explanation. This is: Since 1870 the investment law of Wisconsin, Section 1951, R. S. '98, in re loans to policyholders has provided as follows:

and every such corporation may not only loan to its policyholders sums not exceeding one-half the annual premiums on their policies, upon notes to be secured by the policies of the persons to whom the loans may be made, but may also make loans upon the security of its own policies to an amount not exceeding 95 per cent. of the cash surrender value of each such policy at the time of making any loan.

Until the policies provided for a cash surrender there was a prohibition against the company's making a policy loan, except to an amount not exceeding 50 per cent. of the annual premium, which provision was intended to cover the old half note plan, so that policyholders desiring a loan upon the security of their policies of necessity were compelled to obtain such loans from individuals, and only persons conversant with the reserve value of policies could be persuaded to make such loans. I think, too, that you would find that most of such individual loans were made on paid-up policies, or nearly so,

I was aware of this method of making such loans before I became Commissioner; in fact, the matter was brought to my attention by such a loan being made on a policy issued to my father. I attempted several times to have the law amended by having "reserve value" inserted for "cash surrender value," but always met with strenuous opposition.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM A. FRICKE.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1906

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance.

The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy.

Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906		$13,015,852
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,389,121	
Capital Stock	3,000,000	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,731	$13,015,852

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

SUN

Insurance Office of London

FOUNDED 1710.

United States Branch: 54 Pine St., New York.

Western Department: 171 La Salle St., Chicago.
Pacific Department: 215 Sansome St., San Francisco.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41
(Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

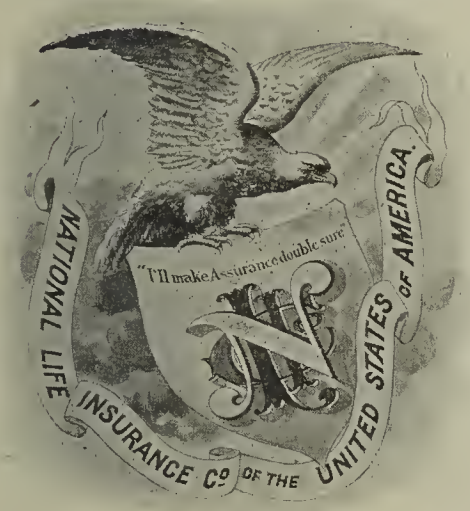
Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.
Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Of the U. S. of A.



Home Office
NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ALBERT M. JOHNSON, President
ROBERT E. SACKETT, Vice-President
ROBERT D. LAY, Secretary
CHAS. B. SHEDD, Treasurer

Admitted assets, $6,092,500.46
Ins. in force - 43,336,600.78
Full paid capital, 1,000,000.00

Policy Contracts Liberal and Up to Date.

Exceptional Inducements offered to wideawake Agents.

Massachusetts Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED 1851

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

ASSETS January 1, 1906,	$40,082,953.35
LIABILITIES,	36,716,579.77
SURPLUS,	3,366,373.58

Definite Paid-up and Cash Surrender Values Written in Every Policy.

JOHN A. HALL, Pres. HENRY M. PHILLIPS, Vice-Pres
WM. W. MCCLENCH, Sec'd Vice-Pres. WM. H. SARGEANT, Sec

New York Office: 610 Empire Building, 71 Broadway.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencies
WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

"The Leading Fire Insurance Company of America."

Incorporated 1819. **Charter Perpetual.**

Cash Capital	$4,000,000.00
Cash Assets	16,815,296.87
Total Liabilities	5,779,285.94
Net Surplus	7,036,010.93
Surplus as to Policyholders	11,036,010.93
Losses Paid in 87 Years	102,847,801.66

WM. B. CLARK, President.
W. H. KING, Secretary.
A. C. ADAMS, HENRY E. REES, A. N. WILLIAMS, } Assistant Secretaries.

WESTERN BRANCH, Traction Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.
KEELER & GALLAGHER, General Agents.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH, Omaha, Neb.
WM. H. WYMAN, Gen. Agent. W. P. HARFORD, Ass't Gen. Agent.

PACIFIC BRANCH, San Francisco, Cal.
BOARDMAN & SPENCER, General Agents.

INLAND MARINE DEPARTMENT.

CHICAGO, 145 La Salle St. NEW YORK, 93 and 95 Wiliam St.
BOSTON, 70 Kilby St. PHILADELPHIA, 226 Walnut St.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

For a DEFINITE PROMISE to PAY, well defined, no experiment and taking no chances that technical legal definitions of what constitutes an accident will be used to defeat claims, BUY YOUR INSURANCE in and SELL the policies of

"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.

For particulars address **The Central Accident Ins. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

THE

MUTUAL
Life Insurance Company of Boston, Mass.

Insurance in Force, December 31, 1905, Over $395,000,000

STEPHEN H. RHODES, President.

ROLAND O. LAMB, Vice-Pres.; ARNOLD A. RAND, 2d Vice-Pres.; ROBERT K. EATON, Sup't of Agencies; WALTON L. CROCKER, Secretary; WM. S. SMITH, Actuary; GEORGE L. STIMMEL, General Agent Metropolitan District.
St. Paul Building, New York.

Northern Assurance Company,

OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN DEPARTMENTS,

38 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

GEORGE W. BABB, Jr., Manager. T. A. RALSTON, Sub-Manager.

Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

Insurance solicitors of character and ability, having a record for quality rather than quantity, can secure good territory and a liberal contract by addressing

C. H. JACKSON, Agency Secretary

HOME OFFICE

Royal INSURANCE COMPANY

(FIRE)

OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

Statement of United States Branch,

JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets, held in the U. S. for the special protection of its American Policyholders.	$8,429,932
Liabilities, ...	$5,454,431
Net Surplus, January 1st, 1906,	$2,975,501

AGENCIES IN ALL THE PRINCIPAL CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO., INCORPORATED 1833.

FIRE AND MARINE. Head Office: TORONTO, CANADA.

UNITED STATES BRANCH.

JANUARY 1, 1906

Assets	$1,542,949.10
Liabilities	1,046,546.17
Net Surplus	$496,402.93

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.

The Mutual Benefit

LIFE INSURANCE CO.

NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

Assets (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1906	$99,127,140
Liabilities	91,548,087
Surplus	7,576,303

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

The Preferred Accident Insurance Co.

OF NEW YORK.

Accident Policies. Health Policies.

Large Benefits, Low Rates, Best Commissions.

January 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,319,514
Surplus	474,634

KIMBALL C. ATWOOD, Sec., 290 Broadway, NEW YORK.

North British & Mercantile

INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

Established 1809.

OFFICE:

76 WILLIAM STREET,

New York City.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.

No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.

United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

(FIRE)

German American Insurance Company New York

CAPITAL

$1,500,000

NET SURPLUS

6,442,674

ASSETS

14,052,520

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references

WESTERN MANAGER

Care of WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William St., New York City

Applications will be considered strictly confidential.

Caledonian Ins. Co.,

FOUNDED 1805. *of Scotland.*

"The Oldest Scottish Insurance Office."

UNITED STATES HEAD OFFICE:

Caledonian Building, 50 and 52 Pine St., New York City

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,883,210.00
Liabilities	1,215,950.00
Net Surplus Over All Liabilities	$667,260.00

CHARLES H. POST, U. S. Mgr.

R. C. CHRISTOPHER, Ass't U. S. Mgr.

Western Assurance Company

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, CANADA.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Hon. GEO. A. COX, President.

J. J. KENNY, V. P. and Managing Director.

UNITED STATES STATEMENT, JANUARY, 1906.

Assets	$2,397,608.00
Surplus in United States	782,945.00

The Empire State Surety Co.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK

391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*
WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, JR., . *President*
EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

C. H. Buuker, President. Franklin H. Head, Vice-President.
A. A. Smith, Secretary, H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.

Continental Casualty Company

POLICIES ARE PROTECTED by more than ONE MILLION DOLLARS ASSETS.

Capital Stock, $300,000.00

Accident and Health Insurance

General Offices, **Chicago.**

OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS paid in claims to 175,000 of our POLICYHOLDERS.

GOOD CONTRACTS IN GOOD TERRITORY TO GOOD MEN

Producers, address H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr. 134 Monroe Street, Chicago.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$2,960,364
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,603,103
Joint Stock Capital	500,000

London Assurance Corporation,

CHARTERED A. D. 1720.

Surplus in United States January 1, 1906, $857,681.75.

CHAS. LYMAN CASE, Manager.

61 Pine Street, NEW YORK.

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$50,019,667.03
Liabilities	41,289,151.01
Gross Surplus	8,730,516.02

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.

Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

INCORPORATED 1865.

GERMAN INSURANCE CO.

OF FREEPORT, ILL.

The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$6,148,738
Cash Capital	200,000
Liabilities, including reinsurance	3,996,673
NET SURPLUS	1,952,065

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

National Life Insurance Co.

MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Established in 1850. Operating in 44 States.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, President.
JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President.
JAMES B. ESTEE, 2d Vice-President.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary.
H. M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
A. B. BISBEE, Medical Director.
C. E. MOULTON, Actuary.
F. A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1906, and gained during the past decade:

Assets	$34,519,093.04	Gain, 184 per cent.
Surplus	3,821,752.51	Gain, 165 per cent.
Insurance	145,480,904.00	Gain, 109 per cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.

A. H. GSELLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

HANOVER

Agencies in all the Principal Places in the United States.

Fire Insurance Company OF NEW YORK.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846–1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. **WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.**

Head Office for the United States:

57 and 59

William Street,

NEW YORK.

A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Manager.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.

LIMITED,

OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Superintendent of Domestic Agents

32 Nassau Street, New York City

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1906. No. 17.

Published every Saturday by the Underwriter Printing and Publishing Company.

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All communications should be addressed to THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William Street, New York.

Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

To an appeal from the chairman of the Bowles "Mutual Life Policyholders' Association," so called, for his voting proxy, Mr. John D. Crimmins has written the following reply:

DEAR SIR—The circular letter of the Mutual Life Policy Holders' Association addressed to me I have read. I have kept myself fully advised of the insurance situation, and have followed investigations and legislation. My interest in the good administration of the company's affairs may be considered large, as my policies amount to $150,000. By no act of mine or influence I may have with other policyholders will I assent to the plan of the association. The investment is too sacred—for the benefit of my family—and I will not jeopardize it by placing it in the hands of novices, I may say, in insurance matters. Admitting that the trustees have erred in judgment in many years, I still recognize that in their management of the company's affairs and in their integrity the company has prospered and the surplus accumulated. We may rest on the annual statement of the company, which shows that the money paid by the policyholders has been wisely invested. Your associates will not have conceit enough to claim that they are men of higher integrity than the present trustees, nor will they have conceit enough to say that they have as wide an experience in insurance matters. The methods of the company are now an open book, and we may read them. Methods that have been condemned in the past will be corrected in the future. I will give my vote to a continuance of the present board or to any committee they will have to solicit proxies. This I shall advise all who will listen to me for advice on this subject, of such vital importance to them as individuals. Respectfully yours, JOHN D. CRIMMINS.

If Mutual Life policyholders will follow the example of the writer of this incisive letter, himself one of the most largely interested among them in the welfare of the company, they will serve themselves well in helping to rout the most dangerous combination that is reaching out for the control of its vast assets. It is the combination of which Untermyer, attorney for Lawson, is the avowed adviser. If policyholders will realize all that that implies they will thank Mr. Crimmins for pointing out the way they should not go, if they would save their company from "the hungry horde of adventurers, of self guaranteed integrity."

THE New York Legislature has finally passed the last of the Armstrong life insurance bills, and they will become laws by the signature of the Governor. Here is a mass of legislation literally revolutionizing the methods of a great business system, prepared by non-experts—mostly politicians seeking to keep or obtain office—and driven to passage under whip and spur, amid the goadings of an ambitious Governor and the frenzied howls of a newspaper mob. When it is recalled that the principal bill, in its original form, would have legislated the companies affected into bankruptcy by limiting their surplus to two per cent. of their total assets, the possibilities of harm that lie in the rest of the bill to become law may be appreciated. The life insurance legislation of 1906 by the State of New York is not the product of care, deliberation, sincerity, and, above all, knowledge. It is the crude, indigestible, unconstitutional creation of self-sufficient and perverse men insistent upon making what they think is a popular point. There was a newspaper-made clamor for legislation, quick legislation, and it was good politics to have it. This motive of the drive was strikingly shown in the means employed in forcing the passage of that most vicious and dangerous feature of the general bill, the exposure of the lists of policyholders. A party caucus was called to whip the opposing Senators into voting against their convictions, under the threat that their re-elections would depend on their subservience. Read the indignant protests of the coerced Senators reported in our legislative news. "The action of invoking the caucus was the most unrighteous, the meanest, the most unprecedented action on a measure of this kind ever carried out," declared honest Horace White. "Sworn officials bound by oath to do their duty as their consciences dictate furnish the spectacle of amending their views in twenty-four hours under the lash of the party whip. It is to laugh" was the comment of Senator Grady. And now that the Armstrong legislation has been enacted into law, what is to be the result? One thing is sure. It will not be followed, unless meagerly, by other State legislatures. It will not serve as the model for the proposed laws by Congress nor for those to be suggested by the insurance commissioners' convention at its next annual meeting. Some of it is impracticable and will not be enforced. Some is unconstitutional and will be disputed in the courts. The worst will be repealed by a new and sober legislature. The Governor of Massachusetts expressed the general opinion outside of New York when he said to his Legislature last week that persons best qualified believed that the bills pending in New York if passed would "require revision next year." To this end it will have to come at last.

CAREFUL estimates based on the latest reports of underwriters at San Francisco fix the net losses of the fire insurance companies by the conflagration at about $95,000,000. This is considerably under the amount which the fears of the companies had conjured up from first statements from the burning city, and which if they had been realized would have ended in the bankruptcy of all but the stronger companies. But the actual loss is one within the ability of the whole body of insurers to meet and leave sufficient margins to continue business upon. The duty concurrent upon the companies with the payment of losses is the advancement of rates. The experience of the past half century in this rapidly developing country has settled the fact that there will be other great conflagrations in the future. Paterson, Jacksonville, Ottawa, Baltimore and San Francisco have burned within the past five years. The destruction of American cities by fire will not stop with that of San Francisco. As the accumulation of a fund to take care of the latter began by an increase of rates after the Baltimore fire, so there must be

provision made now for the next disaster. Either that or the companies will be forced out of business. They have no fund to draw upon to meet losses but that created by premiums collected from the insured public. The premiums must be adequate. Otherwise capital cannot take the risk of meeting the extraordinary hazard and will have to withdraw from the business. It is to the interest of the unburned policyholder that the companies shall live. He must have the protection of insurance. He cannot have it unless he contributes his pro rata to the maintenance of the insurers as going concerns. These are trite observations, and yet how often they appear to be beyond the comprehension of some newspaper writers and some legislators. A New York daily this week discourses upon the "gigantic profits" of the fire insurance companies since the Baltimore fire, and develops wrath at the prospect that they are going to "stick the public" for the cost of the San Francisco fire. That writer and others appear to have a hazy idea that fire underwriters possess some other source of income than the contributions of property owners—a gold mine perhaps—and are in business for philanthropic purposes purely. The concept of the fire insurance company as a collection and distribution agency of individuals insuring one another against loss by fire has never entered their heads. Of this class of reasoners is Smith of lower Manhattan and the other eighty-four Assemblymen who joined him in passing Canfield Brackett's anti-compact bill this week. The circumstance that the fire insurance companies are facing the payment of nearly a hundred million dollars out of their assets for one fire did not appeal to the small soul of Smith. "I don't know what San Francisco has to do with New York," said Smith; "I can assure you that the bill providing against compacts between insurance companies will take its usual course, and I don't believe it should or will be affected by the disaster." The Assembly mob went with him without a thought whether it was fair or generous, in this hour of sore trial for capital invested in fire insurance, to harry, hack and bind the companies. A more conservative temper toward fire insurance has been exhibited in the Senate, and if the bill is not made a Republican caucus measure, and Republican Senators are not threatened by the Governor-Boss with political extermination if they refuse to vote for it, it will be allowed, as former anti-compact bills in New York have been, to die in the Senate Insurance Committee room.

Facts and Opinions.

As a result of earthquake and conflagration disturbances at San Francisco the **examination of the Pacific Mutual Life** by the California Insurance Department, at the instance of the company, has been suspended for the present, and Examiner S. H. Wolfe is returning to New York.

Uncertainty as to exact individual company **losses at San Francisco** still prevails, and is likely to continue until order is restored in the stricken city, and records found and made up. Representatives of many of the larger companies are on their way to San Francisco to confer with the local managers there. The estimates of the aggregate insurance loss by the fire, made by prominent and experienced underwriters, vary from $65,000,000 to $150,000,000, which shows how wide is the factor of uncertainty still. There is a very general feeling that rates must be advanced throughout the business sections of the country; certainly in the congested districts of cities. The Home and other companies have taken the initiative themselves, the former having ordered an increase of 25 per cent. in all the congested parts of the United States. At a meeting of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange on Wednesday the rate advance was discussed, but no definite action was taken, and a committee, composed of Col. A. H. Wray, of the Commercial Union, chairman; Presidents Sheldon, of the Phenix, and Kremer, of the German American; Manager Eaton, of the Liverpool and London and Globe, and Vice President Correa, of the Home, was appointed to consider the situation. On another page will be found statements regarding their losses, officially made by a large number of companies. Nearly all of them express confidence in their ability to pull through, and most of them will still have good surpluses. Four companies, however, have succumbed up to this time of writing. The United States Fire reinsures all its outstanding business in the Westchester Fire, but will eventually resume. Sumner Ballard was the intermediary of the transaction. The American Fire of Boston has reinsured its risks in the Firemen's of Newark, and the Mercantile Fire and Marine of Boston in the American Central of St. Louis, which owns it. The American may retire for good, as it has had a long run of adverse fortune, but the Mercantile will continue. The American Fire of Philadelphia is the fourth to cease accepting new business, and its risks have been taken over by the Commercial Union.

Returns of business transacted by the Mutual Life in the first three months of 1906, reported at the trustees' meeting this week, showed new premiums of the Mutual were $939,179.53, against $2,218,339.42 in the first quarter of 1905. Renewal premiums for the same period of this year were $14,143,305.04, comparing with $13,772,140.44. Interest and rents received were $4,205,232.82 for the quarter ended March 31, 1905, and this year the same items amounted to $4,578,917.58. President Peabody said that the readjustment of rentals in the home office building now in progress would add an increasing amount of income from that source, as leases now in force at inadequate rates expired and were renewed under the schedule that has been adopted under the advice of the Mutual's investigators. The Mutual paid to policyholders in the first quarter of 1906 $9,608,436.50, as against $8,537,607.24 in the same quarter of 1905. The commissions paid this year on new business were $641,649.30. They were $1,644,465.66 in the first three months of 1905, the great saving being due to the falling off of new business indicated by the decrease of new premiums noted. Renewal commissions were $370,472.23 for the three months ended March 31, as against $532,899.60 in the same period last year. Of the latter amount $70,000 was due to an increase of renewal commissions put into effect in 1905. Regarding the company's affairs in San Francisco it is learned that probably all the Pacific Coast records were burned in the San Francisco fire, among them the Coast lists of policyholders. These were not kept at the home office. The company's building was entirely destroyed. It has decided to rebuild on the old site on Montgomery, Sacramento and Commercial streets a bigger and better building. It will now cover the whole frontage of the block on Montgomery street instead of a corner of the lot, as heretofore.

A circular has been issued to the **British policyholders of the Mutual Life,** signed by Lords St. Oswald, Armstrong and Northcliffe, and by the following members of the House of Commons: Harwood-Banner, Seaverns, Benn, Howarth Booth, Barclay J. Baron and Sir Wilfrid Lawson. It cites the demands cabled recently to the trustees of the Mutual Life, and contends that while the suggestion made by the trustees that an actuary be appointed to verify the reserve and liabilities might reassure the policyholders as to the solvency of the company, it would not remove the causes of dissatis-

faction with the present management nor aid the policyholders in securing the control of the company's affairs in the future. The circular adds:

It seems to the committee that it is impossible that the company can with any prospect of success continue doing business in this country so long as the present New York management is in authority. The present expenses are out of all proportion to the results.

After reciting the resolutions passed on April 20, the circular proceeds to say that the chief desire in Great Britain and the United States (?) is that the movement for a thorough reorganization as a policyholders' company will meet with success. The circular ends with the following statement:

Should unforeseen circumstances frustrate the accomplishment of this object, it would become a necessary demand that the British interests be separated from the American and that the British policyholders be formed into a separate organization.

The movement is evidently in the interest of individuals who seek to control the company for their own purposes, or, what is more likely, start a British company with assets segregated from the Mutual Life, to be controlled by the same persons.

Of 347 men in **the class of 1896 at Princeton** thirty, or about 8 2-3 per cent., went into the insurance business, according to data furnished a recent number of the *Princeton Alumni Weekly* by Assistant Secretary C. B. Bostwick, of the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society of New York, who is class secretary. At present there are twenty-one still in the business, while nine have taken up other pursuits. Of the 335 living members there are then about 6 1-3 per cent. who are insurance men, some of whom are well known in the insurance world. Many are life insurance men. Besides Mr. Bostwick, of the Provident Savings Life, there are: William S. Baylis, New York manager for the Columbian National Life of Boston; Randolph Bedle, resident assistant secretary at Jersey City of the National Surety of New York; Milner Brien, special agent at Dayton, Ohio, for the Northwestern Mutual Life; J. J. Elliot, of the Nashville, Tenn., firm of Luke & Elliott, State managers for the Equitable Life; Aaron W. Godfrey, a New York life insurance broker; I. S. Homans, actuary and director of the Greensboro Life of Greensboro, N. C.; Paul Loving, with the Franklin Fire of Columbus, Ohio; John C. Sherriff, attorney at Pittsburgh for the Fidelity and Casualty; T. H. A. Stites, medical referee of the Mutual Life and medical examiner for the Washington Life; William L. Stockton, manager for Ohio of the Prudential; Paul Tillinghast, in charge of the policy loan department of the Provident Savings Life; Paul C. Weed, of Weed, Parker & Co., a St. Paul, Minn., fire insurance firm, and W. R. Wilson, State manager at Denver, Col., for the Washington Life.

At Covington, Ky., Nellie Morgan lost in her suit against the **Metropolitan Life insurance company** for a $122 life insurance policy, alleged to be due on account of the death of her husband, the court sustaining the company's demurrer to the petition. The plaintiff took out a policy on her husband's life in 1898. Morgan left Kentucky in 1892, and was last heard of in Pennsylvania in 1896, and has been absent from Kentucky for more than seven years without being heard from. The suit was based on the assumption that he was dead, because of the legal presumption that this is so after absence of seven years without word. The court said that while this presumption was the law, there was no presumption as to what time death occurred; that is, whether Morgan died during the first or the last of seven years' absence. The authorities cited by the company established this proposition. The policy was taken out six years after Morgan left the State and two after he had last been heard from. "The question naturally arises," said Judge Shaw, "whether he was dead when the policy was issued. If so, the policy was of no effect. The law neither presumes him dead nor alive in 1898. It simply presumes him dead after seven years' absence. To hold this policy good would be to presume Morgan died after 1898, the date of the policy, and there is no such presumption."

The New York University School of Commerce, Accounts and Finance announces a **special course on fire insurance principles and practice,** to begin September 27, 1906. This course is designed for men who are contemplating fire insurance as a business and especially for those who while actively engaged in some department of fire insurance or real estate work feel the need of acquainting themselves with the work of other departments and of gaining a thorough knowledge of the fire insurance business in its entirety and the fundamental principles upon which it is based. Such men now have the opportunity of improving themselves under the instruction of men who are thoroughly familiar with the principles and practical work of the fire insurance business in all its parts. Inquiries as to terms etc., should be directed to Dr. Thomas Mitchell Warner, secretary, Washington square East, New York city. The advisory committee is composed of C. F. Shallcross, manager of the Royal; Henry Evans, president of the Continental; Cornelius DuBois, of Frank & DuBois; W. O. Robb, secretary committee on losses and adjustments, and H. E. Hess, manager of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange.

The members of the **Boston Life Underwriters' Association,** at their spring dinner, given Tuesday evening at Young's Hotel, were treated to a splendidly complete elucidation of the way the assault upon their interests at Albany was met, as well as a scathing analysis of the shortcomings of the Armstrong Committee, by the one best qualified to handle these subjects, namely, Mr. William C. Johnson, general agent at New York of the Phœnix, who so ably bore the brunt of the assault and minimized its viciousness. We take pleasure in presenting extracts from his address elsewhere in this issue. Hon. Harrison Hume, of Boston, followed with a strong speech, in which he emphasized the fact that where bribes had been given someone must also have taken them, and roundly scored the hypocrisy that professes to see all the evil on one side only. Representative Hayes, of the Massachusetts Legislature, developed a fund of good natured satire and clever insight into the life insurance situation of the day by his merry gibes at the upstart, susceptible "reformers," now, alas! all too plentiful in the land.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the **Metropolitan Life** on April 24 the following minute on the **death of John A. McCall** was adopted:

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Life insurance company held on the twenty-fourth day of April, 1906, the president made formal notice of the death, since the last meeting of the board, of the Honorable John A. McCall, a strong friend and ally of the company since his examination of its affairs as deputy superintendent of the insurance department twenty-eight years ago, and a valued member of its board of directors for more than ten years. The secretary was directed to place upon record a minute expressive of the high esteem entertained by this board for his signal service to the cause of life insurance, in the varied relations he held to it for more than a generation past; for his warm attachment to the Metropolitan; his great pride in its career, and for the spirit of helpfulness which always animated him in its behalf. The board further expressed its high estimate of the fine qualities of mind and heart which made him conspicuous; deplored the fact that a life so admirably equipped for usefulness could not have been longer spared to the world, and extended its sympathy and sorrow to his widow and family, and to all with whom he was allied by the ties of kinship and affection.

The situation of the **three Boston fire insurance companies** in reference to the San Francisco disaster leaves one of them,

the Boston insurance company, unaffected, as this corporation ceased writing fire business in California's metropolis six years ago. The two others, the Mercantile Fire and Marine and the American, have each about $1,000,000 at risk in San Francisco. On December 31 last the gross assets of the Mercantile were about $800,000, those of the American $750,000, with $400,000 and $300,000 capital and $89,000 and $102,000 net surplus, respectively. On Monday the American ceased taking new business outside of New England. On Thursday the Mercantile, already half reinsured in the American Central of St. Louis, reinsured the other half also, but will continue in business as a separate organization. On Thursday, also, the directors of the American of Boston and representatives of the Firemen's of Newark reached an understanding for the reinsurance of the American's business in the New Jersey company.

The **new governing committee of the Western Union** held its first meeting on Tuesday and chose Law Brothers, the Western managers for the Royal, chairman. George W. Law, who will represent the active chairmanship, announces that the policy of the committee will be to seek a reduction of expenses and to require the unprofitable classes and the heavy values in the congested centres to pay adequate rates. The necessary steps will be taken to enable the companies to recoup their losses and thereby insure the security that is expected. Few changes were made on the other Union committees. W. N. Johnson of the North America, retires from the arbitration committee, of which he was chairman, as the result of the reversal of its findings by the Atlanta meeting, and is succeeded on the committee by William S. Warren. P. D. McGregor, of the Queen, is reappointed chairman of the grievance committee, with J. A. Kelsey, of the Aachen and Munich, and W. R. Townley, of the British American. On the membership committee H. N. Kelsey, of the Sun, succeeds G. W. Hayes.

Much interest is being taken by insurance managers in the West, both Union and non-Union, in the proposition of the **Indiana League,** the non-Union organization, to establish a **rating bureau of its own.** The league declares emphatically that it proposes that its bureau shall co-operate fully and preserve harmony, but managers believe that with two organizations making independent rates in the field the one making the lowest rates will get the business. It is understood that the non-Union companies propose to undertake the independent rater plan in other territories if it is found successful in Indiana, and so the experiment will be watched with unusual interest. The Indiana League has selected its inspector to have charge of the rating bureau, he being a man at present on the inspection staff of the Committee of Twenty, of the National Board. He is to take charge in May. Union managers profess to believe that the movement is a bluff on the part of the non-Union companies in order to force better terms from the State Board.

"As against fire on a large scale effective safeguards are possible," says the New York *Times*, discussing **the future of San Francisco,** and it adds:

The danger to all our large cities from fire has arisen, as it arose in San Francisco, from the steady and usually inevitable accumulation of cheap and combustible structures for residence and business in certain quarters of the towns. So long as building goes on unregulated, according to the needs and means of individual owners, this cannot be helped, and regulation that would help it has heretofore been impossible. It will not be impossible, and it ought to be certain, in this case, under the pressure of the awful consequences of neglect. Enormous wealth, in the hands of as capable men as have ever been known, is enlisted in the resurrection of San Francisco. United and organized, these men, with this wealth, can make sure that the city is rebuilt of practically fireproof material, on a plan that will give ample spaces to resist the advance of a conflagration, should one be started, and with provision of fire fighting methods—modern chemistry is quite equal to such provision—largely independent of the water mains. Organization is the key to the problem, and perfectly effective organization to the men who in the last three decades have done what has been done on the Pacific Coast should be feasible. The terrible catastrophe has given them a splendid opportunity.

Any insurance hysteria that may have been waiting its chance in the Massachusetts Legislature appears to have been effectively **sidetracked by Governor Guild,** although not in the exact way he started out to do it. The Legislative Insurance Committee, not relishing the supersedence of its functions involved in the prospective summer sessions of the special advisory commission, told his excellency last Monday in effect that it was willing and anxious to sit through the summer itself, securing such advice and assistance as it might deem necessary, and the Governor allowed that this was not a bad scheme. Accordingly Senator Parker, chairman of the committee, on Wednesday offered in the Senate a bill to put this plan into effect, and requiring the committee to report on or before the second Wednesday in January, 1907. By that time the September conclusions of the Chicago convention will have been reached, and the "reform" thunder ought to have pretty well spent itself.

Comments of the Dubuque, Ia., *Globe-Journal* on the proceedings of the legislative committee investigating the **Northwestern Mutual Life:**

The Wisconsin Legislature's investigation of the Northwestern Mutual Life insurance company of Milwaukee has to date produced headlines rather more sensational than the testimony, though the press dispatches speak of Vice President Skinner's "sensational revelations" concerning loans on policies made by officers of the company and members of their families, including the wife of President Palmer. One of the Chicago papers in its headlines speaks of "insurance graft in private loans," but the body of the dispatch does not justify this caption. It reports that officers of the company or their relatives have loaned over $350,000 on policies, but it does not appear that in all this there is anything prejudicial to the interests of the company or its policyholders. "Sensational revelations" on the subject of proxies were reported a few days ago, but the testimony was really not sensational. The proxies are not held by officers of the company, but run generally to citizens of Milwaukee. They are good for sixty days only, and therefore could not be used to perpetuate the control of a management that had lost the confidence of the policyholders.

The **serious illness of Mr. Samuel P. Blagden** is the cause of much pain to his very numerous friends, particularly as the reports are discouraging as to his recovery. He has been suffering seriously from cirrhosis of the liver and heart trouble for several weeks past, and of late has been growing rapidly weaker. Mr. Blagden was born in Boston in 1840, his father being a prominent clergyman there. He was graduated from Williams College and in 1862 entered the fire insurance business in Boston. He became assistant manager of the North British and Mercantile. In 1870 he became joint manager with Ezra White. He was made manager in 1887, and continued in that position until his resignation in 1894. Mr. Blagden was president of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters in 1890 and 1891. Of late he has been senior member of the large agency firm of Blagden, Kelly & Fuller.

Every officer elected by the New York State Grand Council of the **Royal Arcanum,** which closed its annual session at Syracuse on Wednesday, is a supporter of the new scale of rates fixed by the Supreme Council. The Grand Council of New York represents about one-fourth of the entire membership of the order, and as the session was regarded as the most important yet held in the United States or Canada for consideration of the rate question, officers declare that the result of the election will have the effect of quieting opposition to the present rates. The only resolutions adopted on the subject declare for rates adequate to perpetuate the order and

enable it to pay in full all of its mortality obligations. Efforts to put through resolutions instructing delegates to the Supreme Council to urge a change to the old rate system failed.

The fire insurance committee of the **Merchants' Association of New York,** of which John C. Eames is chairman, has addressed a letter to Mayor McClellan urging "the great necessity for speedily completing the auxiliary high pressure water service in the downtown business districts of the city." The letter says:

San Francisco's experience has impressed upon us the fact that should any disaster of any kind occur to the dams or aqueducts of our present system, or should a water famine, which is not an unreal danger, occur, the business districts in the lower part of the city, with billions of dollars' worth of merchandise, might be at the mercy of the conflagration. With the completion of the auxiliary high pressure service, however, such a catastrophe to our dams or aqueducts, or the occurrence of a water famine, would not leave this immense and valuable property unprotected in the case of a large fire.

There were for the year 1905 in the **boroughs of Manhattan, Bronx and Richmond** 7,750 fires, an increase of 201 fires over the year 1904. The total estimated loss amounted to $5,271,955, an increase of $741,012 over the total loss for 1904. The average loss per fire was $680.25, an increase of $80.05 over the previous year's average. The following is a summary for the different boroughs:

	No. of Fires.	Estimated Loss.	Average Loss.
Manhattan	6,707	$5,105,578	$761.23
The Bronx	691	87,841	127.12
Richmond	352	78,536	223.11
Totals	7,750	$5,271,955	$680.25

Copies of the following **circular** letter have been sent **to all the fire insurance companies** transacting business in this State by Superintendent of Insurance Francis Hendricks:

It is the intention of the department to call upon all fire insurance corporations authorized to transact business in this State for a sworn statement of their losses in the recent conflagrations in San Francisco and the other cities and villages in California, such statement to be as of June 1, 1906. The necessary blank for this return will be mailed at an early day. In the meantime, in order that we may answer inquiries, we would ask that you furnish us as soon as practicable, and certainly not later than May 5 proximo, with an estimate of your California losses, sending this information by wire and confirming by letter.

The Insurance Commissioners of New Hampshire and Tennessee have also requested the companies interested in the San Francisco fire to make early reports of their losses.

The Indiana Republican State Convention, which met at Indianapolis April 12, inserted a plank in the party platform **opposing special contract life insurance policies,** a form much favored by the younger Western companies doing business in the State. The convention also adopted the following plank in reference to the business of fraternal orders:

We are in favor of a law to further regulate the business of life insurance companies, the organization and business of fraternal benefit societies, mutual benefit associations and investment companies, both foreign and domestic, for the purpose of better protecting the policyholders therein. A law should be enacted that will designate and more closely restrict the kind and character of securities that may be deposited with the Auditor of State, limit the expense of such companies, societies and associations, and provide for complete publicity of their affairs.

A decision was handed down by Judge Robinson, of the Connecticut Superior Court, on Saturday quashing the mandamus writs brought by the Metropolitan Life and the New York Life against Theron Upson, Insurance Commissioner. The companies alleged that they were entitled to **a return of the tax of 1 per cent.** which they paid to the State on premium receipts from policies written within the State prior to January 1, 1902. The Commissioner made a certification as to certain companies, but refused to make a certification as to the two companies named, and proceedings were brought in consequence. The companies have filed appeals to the Supreme Court.

The fire insurance companies are seeking to put an end to the **savage cutting of rates in Des Moines.** Individually they have notified their agents to consult the rate sheets before issuing policies hereafter, especially on the congested district. Several agents who have sent in risks at less than the Bennett rates since have had the policies returned to them. This has not been general, however, as since the notice the Bentley & Olmstead stock has been written at 50 cents, a reduction of 42 cents from the regular advisory rate. Several companies are considering the establishment of salaried agents in Des Moines in order to put an end to the demoralization in rates.

The London *Times,* in its financial article, speaks of the **British losses by the San Francisco fire** thus:

Even suppose that at the worst the British companies affected had to pay eventually £10,000,000 of their total liabilities in San Francisco. This amount represents only six months' net premium income. During the past three years, in spite of the Baltimore and Ottawa conflagrations, the reserves of the companies have been strengthened by fully £6,750,000. Of the amounts paid in dividends, about £2,000,000 are derived from interest on earnings. The reserves and paid up capital of about £40,000,000 can bear even such an unlikely drain as the loss at San Francisco of £10,000,000, and dividends in most cases will not be materially affected.

At the stockholders' meeting in Philadelphia on Saturday last of the **General Accident insurance company** it was decided to erect a new home office building, and an architect was engaged to begin at once to prepare plans. The company has applied for admission to Alabama, South Carolina and Virginia. Officers were elected as follows: F. Norrie-Miller, president; F. J. Moore, vice president and secretary; O. R. Maynard, treasurer. These officials, with Walter E. Hoag and C. H. Boyer, compose the board of directors.

The **commission appointed by the Ohio Legislature** to examine into insurance conditions in the State met at Columbus April 17 and organized by choosing Earle Stewart, of Springfield, chairman, and P. W. Ward, of Cleveland, secretary. The committee, by unanimous vote, invited State Insurance Superintendent Vorys to meet with it and render such assistance as he desires in the future. Objection was made by outsiders to the invitation to Superintendent Vorys on the ground that he was "too friendly to the insurance companies."

The receiver of the **Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce Mutual insurance company** has begun suit against a number of the most prominent citizens of Cincinnati to recover dues on unpaid death claims. The organization has been inactive since 1901, when the Insurance Department refused to renew its license and ordered it to wind up its affairs. It was then insolvent and nineteen deaths have occurred since, which have not been paid. The membership was restricted to the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce.

The annual meeting of the **Western Factory Insurance Association** was held at Chicago on April 20. W. J. Littlejohn, of the North British and Mercantile, was elected president; P. D. McGregor, of the Queen, vice president, and C. R. Street, of the Phœnix, secretary and treasurer. W. L. King and I. S. Blackwelder retired from the executive committee under the rules, and were succeeded by A. H. Sage, of the German American, and M. F. Driscoll, of the Phœnix of London.

At the dinner to the Milwaukee policyholders of the **Columbian National Life** of Boston April 17, given at the Hotel

Phister, Milwaukee, seventy-five policyholders were present. The speakers were: George H. Holt, vice president; Franklin W. Ganse, vice president; H. A. Haugan, director; Calvin Durand, director; James Westervelt, of New York; Dr. John S. Phelps, medical director; M. D. Fenno, general field superintendent, of Chicago; Walter Moses, of New York, and W. A. Burch, of Chicago.

It is an exceedingly modern idea in insurance that any community must, in addition to having its original rates proportioned to its individual situation and risks, be prepared to assume at any moment a share of the burden of losses sustained through phenomenal disaster elsewhere. A feeling that policyholders in general get less than "a square deal" in such circumstances can hardly be wondered at.—*New York morning paper.*

The above is only a sample. It might occur to the editor, if he will think real thoughts, that it would be rather rough on San Francisco to make it bear the burden of recouping its own losses at present.

A motion for the quashing of the indictments for forgery or grand larceny returned against the officers of the **Mutual Reserve Life insurance company** was made on Monday by former Assistant District Attorney Rand before Recorder Goff in General Sessions. Mr. Rand argued that the character of the evidence placed before the grand jury that returned the indictments was improper. Acting District Attorney Nott replied to Mr. Rand, and the court reserved decision.

Fire losses paid by companies of all classes **in Canada in 1905** aggregated $6,008,457, as compared with $14,099,534 in 1904. These were made up as follows:

	1905.	1904.
Canadian companies	$1,408,003	$2,561,475
British companies	3,633,706	9,172,919
American companies	966,748	2,365,140
Totals	$6,008,457	$14,099,534

The annual report of the **Union of London** disclosed net fire insurance premiums in 1905 of £695,263, the losses paid and outstanding £344,956 (49.61 per cent.), and the commission and expenses £249,243 (35.85 per cent.). The surplus of fire premiums over claims and expenses was £101,063 (14.54 per cent.). The reserve for unexpired risks was increased to £278,105, or 40 per cent. of the premiums, and the credit balance carried to profit and loss account was £97,152.

A special meeting of the stockholders of the **Eagle Fire insurance company of New York** has been called for May 9 to vote on the proposition of increasing the capital stock by an addition of $300,000 paid in in cash and to immediately transfer the same to the surplus by vote of the shareholders. This plan will give the Eagle approximately $300,000 capital with $600,000 net surplus, and with other items aggregate gross assets of $1,300,000.

A big business for the first quarter of 1906 was written by the **Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee**, according to reports read at the quarterly meeting of the company on Saturday last. During the three months ending April 1 it wrote $23,932,152 new business, an increase of $2,000,000 over the same period a year ago. The increase in assets was $2,825,492, making the total assets $221,242,565, of which $102,281,000 is in real estate mortgages.

A committee of the **Chicago Board of Underwriters** submitted a report favoring the admission of persons connected with banks on a strictly commission basis as eligible to Class Four. Unincorporated banking institutions, whose principal business is that of real estate loans, were also to be eligible to Class Four. This was not satisfactory to the executive committee, and the committee was discharged and a new committee appointed.

At the monthly meeting of the executive committee of the **National Board of Fire Underwriters** on Thursday a committee was appointed to draft suitable resolutions on the deaths of Henry H. Hall and James E. Pulsford, and it was voted to omit the usual annual banquet this year on account of the probable absence of many members, caused by the San Francisco fire.

When $100,000 of its $1,000,000 capital has been paid in, the **Republic Life of Chicago,** incorporated under Illinois laws, will begin business. These directors, all of Chicago, have been chosen: George E. Marshall, A. L. Thomas, Charles E. Schlytern, Nils Arneson, Frank J. Llewellyn, Charles Baltz, Albert G. Beaunisne, R. Dean and Samuel S. Parks.

The resumption of proceedings by the **Canadian Government Commission** investigating life insurance is uncertain, owing to the continued illness of the chairman, Mr. Justice McTavish. It is reported that the commission will reassemble in Toronto and that the affairs of the Canadian Life will next engage the investigators' attention.

Fire underwriters are watching the **moral hazard on saloons in Ohio,** where the new $1,000 tax goes into effect, the first instalment being due in June. As the former license was $450, this is expected to put about 40 per cent. of the saloons out of business, and the companies report that they are getting suspicious losses from there already.

At the annual meeting of the **National Fire Protection Association,** to be held in Chicago May 22 to 24, an amendment to the articles of association is to be considered, providing that individuals, firms and corporations interested in the protection of life and property against loss by fire shall be eligible to subscribing membership.

The New York offices of the **Atlas Assurance Company** of London were moved Friday from the eighth floor of 49 Wall street to the Woodbridge Building, 100 William street, where the United States headquarters, under Manager Lock, will have the front suite on the fourth floor. This will give more room, which was much needed.

A central department for the **United Surety Company** is to be opened in Chicago, covering Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. George G. Brown, manager of the United Agency Company of Chicago, which has a contract for Illinois, will manage the department on a salaried basis.

A radical revision of rates on all business outside of the **congested district of New Orleans** is to be made soon, that being regarded as the only way to prevent a rate war. A number of companies have been cutting rates from 20 to 35 per cent., and the companies which maintain the tariff are losing their business.

The **Firemen's Fire** of Baltimore has secured a verdict against the Allemannia of Pittsburgh in the courts at Washington, D. C., for the full amount of its claim for reinsurance of $12,613.24, with interest from May 4 and court costs. The case grew out of the Baltimore conflagration.

Our worthy contemporary, the **Insurance Age,** after a sojourn of more than a third of a century in Broadway, thirty

years of which were spent in one building, has now removed to the Wallace Building, 56-58 Pine street, where it will continue to promote all that is best in insurance.

The statement cabled from London that the **Liverpool and London and Globe insurance company** is about to make a call upon its stockholders is authoritatively denied. On the contrary the company can pay all its losses by the San Francisco conflagration without touching its reserve fund.

London Lloyds is concerned in the San Francisco fire, and a cable dispatch reports the secretary as saying that "it is a fine point whether insurance will be paid following an earthquake, which is 'an act of God.'" The regular companies are not making this point, be it observed.

The **State Fire insurance company of Liverpool** has passed a resolution to call in £2 per share of its unpaid capital. The operation of the resolution is postponed until definite advices are received from San Francisco as to the amount of the company's loss.

The directors of the **Continental Life of Salt Lake City,** which has been engaged in excessive litigation, are preparing to reduce its capital stock from $500,000 to $375,000 by making the shares $75 instead of $100, the balance to be used to replace surplus.

The following dispatch has been sent by President Morton to the manager for the **Equitable Life** at San Francisco:

We are mailing Cashier Donnels instructions to grant thirty days' additional time to all policyholders in afflicted district whose premiums become due and payable or whose grace or extension expires between April 18 and May 31 inclusive.

The **Connecticut Mutual Life insurance company** has directed its California agents to give sixty days' additional time without charge to all policyholders suffering by the San Francisco disaster whose premiums come due in April, May or June.

The name for the amalgamated Armenia of Pittsburgh and Conestoga of Lancaster has been altered from Pennsylvania Home, that first selected, to the **Guardian Fire Insurance Company of Pennsylvania.** Similarity of names with other companies caused the change.

The **Utah Association of Life Underwriters** celebrated its first anniversary April 9 with an elaborate programme. The original officers were re-elected, with D. H. Livingston, as second vice president, in place of M. H. Desher, deceased.

A very promising enterprise was on foot for the organization of a **fire insurance company at Los Angeles,** to have $500,000 capital stock. It is believed that the San Francisco conflagration will dampen the ardor of its promoters.

Condolences are extended to our esteemed contemporaries, the *Coast Review, Adjuster* and *Insurance Sun,* whose offices were burned out in the San Francisco fire. The California office of the *Insurance Report* was also victimized.

The newly organized **Adirondack Fire insurance company** of New York has been licensed to do business by Insurance Superintendent Hendricks. The capital is $200,000 and surplus $100,000.

The **Individual Fire Underwriters of St. Louis** has been admitted to New York after long negotiations, and is now seeking a license in the State of Illinois, if the laws permit it to enter.

The Indiana Grand Lodge of the **Order of United Workmen** has decided to collect its dues hereafter on the flat rate system used by the old line insurance companies.

Application for admission to Massachusetts has been made by the **German National of Chicago,** which has also selected Kaler & Carney as its Boston representatives.

The **Security Life and Annuity,** which recently removed its headquarters from Philadelphia to Chicago, is being examined by the Illinois Department.

The grand jury in New York yesterday afternoon indicted **W. A. Brewer,** late president of the Washington Life, for perjury.

Admissions.—The German of Freeport to New Hampshire and the Farmers Fire of York, Pa., to Connecticut.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

City of New York: Gregory & Appel, Indianapolis, Ind.; Kirschner, Wideman & Uhl, Toledo, Ohio; Shedd & Pembroke, Columbus, Ohio; McGervey, Duncan & Woodworth, Kansas City, Mo.

Concordia Fire: A. P. Spencer, late special agent for the Chicago general agency of Montgomery & Funkhouser, special agent in Indiana and Illinois, assisting State agent C. G. Meeker.

Georgia Home: Capen & Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Humboldt Fire of Alleghany: William J. de Rivera, New York, metropolitan district agent.

John Hancock Mutual Life: Charles E. Merritt, Kennard Building, Manchester, N. H., general agent for New Hampshire and Vermont.

Union of Buffalo: Henry J. Ide, Boston, manager for New England.

United Surety of Baltimore: G. R. Griffin & Co., Boston, managers for Massachusetts.

Actuary S. H. Wolfe, on his journey to the Pacific Coast to examine the Pacific Mutual Life for the California Insurance Department, stopped over at Salt Lake City at the request of President Quigley, of the Continental Life Insurance and Investment Company, and made a brief examination of its affairs. The management of the company has recently been reorganized.

Mr. Robert Hope Atkinson, a general agent of the New York Life, died at Waco, Tex., on Thursday from consumption, following a severe attack of the grip. Mr. Atkinson was born in Liverpool, England, and was engaged in the life insurance business in Montreal, Canada, and in Australia many years. He was fifty-three years old.

Mr. F. A. Early has been appointed Cook County manager for the Southern, Armenia and Houston in Chicago, to take effect May 1. He will be sole agent for the Southern and Houston, but the agency for the Armenia, now held by J. B. Roddick & Son, will not be disturbed.

Mr. Sylvanus Albert Reed, former manager of the New York Tariff Association, and at present expert examiner for the Committee of Twenty of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, has been delegated by the committee to go to San Francisco to study conditions there.

Mr. L. M. Wiel, formerly assistant Western manager of the Hanover Fire, and afterward agency director for the New York Life, has resigned as Illinois manager of the Fidelity Mutual Life to go with the Mutual Benefit in Chicago.

Professor James Glover, who occupies the chair of mathematics in the University of Michigan, has been requested to act as expert to advise the Wisconsin legislative committee investigating life insurance companies.

Mr. Wilbur H. Baldwin, a Glens Falls, N. Y., insurance agent and former general agent there of the Mutual Reserve Life of New York, died April 16 after a three days' illness from apoplexy, aged forty-seven years.

Mr. J. W. Miner, Jr., of Denver, has been appointed secretary of the Texas Fire Prevention Association, succeeding J. C. Grosswold, who goes into the field for the Liverpool and London and Globe in Texas.

Mr. D. H. Bitner, formerly agency director of the New York Life at the Merchants Loan and Trust branch in Chicago, has been appointed manager of the Fidelity Mutual Life for eastern Wisconsin.

Ex-Lieutenant Governor James D. Dewell, vice president of the Security insurance company of New Haven, died there suddenly from heart disease April 19, aged sixty-nine years.

Mr. Albert M. King, formerly agency director of the Railway Exchange branch of the New York Life in Chicago, has gone with the Northwestern Mutual Life in that city.

Mr. William L. Conley, of Milwaukee, Wis., for several years manager for Wisconsin for the Travelers of Hartford, died from heart disease April 14, aged fifty-four years.

Mr. Garrett Brown, former editor of the Western *Insurance Review* and *Protection,* is now located at Little Rock, Ark., as general agent of the Missouri State Life.

Secretary Edson S. Lott, of the United States Casualty, is so much improved in health that hopes are entertained that he will resume his active duties early in May.

Mr. Charles J. Knoch, a prominent fire insurance agent of Denver, Col., died there from pneumonia April 10, aged fifty years. He is the

third leading Denver agent to die since the beginning of the year, the others being Oliver Williams and Robert S. Brannan.

President-Governor Pattison, of the Union Central Life and the State of Ohio, is reported from Cincinnati as making improvement from his illness.

Mr. W. H. Mallory, a San Francisco insurance man, was killed as a result of the earthquake shock last week at Santa Rosa, Cal.

President Timothy L. Woodruff was re-elected president of the Provident Savings Life by the directors on April 20.

President R. Emory Warfield, of the Hanover Fire, will take up the duties of his new position on May 15.

Official Reports.

Ohio Life Insurance Report.

The life insurance report of Superintendent Vorys to Governor Pattison contains the following general observations upon the life insurance situation:

Under the encouragement which the law, in order to develop resources and promote commerce, has given corporations, their aggrandizement, power and influence have in many instances reached such proportions that the individual can no longer be said to have free and equal rights in dealing with them. Therefore a general feeling prevails that the State or the Government should control or supervise dealings formerly considered matters of private contract with which the law did not interfere.

The recent conspicuous efforts in this direction are those against combinations to control trade in particular commodities, against discriminating and unreasonable railroad rates and attempts to regulate the management of life insurance. Monopoly, one of the chief sources of opposition to trusts and railroads, does not inspire the attempts at controlling the management of life insurance. Conditions which allow the stifling of competition in trade in commodities or in transportation facilities can scarcely obtain in life insurance. Other considerations led to the discontent respecting life insurance and to demands for greater control by the State over its management.

Voluntary exposures, following dissensions between officers of one company, led to investigations wherein disclosures were sensational enough to elicit public attention. From this resulted general inquiry and study, and a general knowledge of the business and methods of its operations that will enable the public better to analyze the relative merits of different plans of insurance and different managements, a knowledge that realizes there is no magic or great mystery in life insurance, but that its essential features may be understood by ordinary individuals and that unfaithfulness may develop and exist there as well as in other enterprises. This present general conception is intelligent when compared with the clouded notion, once so prevalent, that the science and business of life insurance is a sealed book whose mysteries cannot be penetrated by the ordinary individual. This enlightened intelligence, and the study and efforts toward a more economic operation of this important institution by the profound and experienced, as well as the unskilled and superficial, will surely result in more wholesome conditions in all quarters.

There is now a clearer apprehension of the relations between the policyholders and the managers of the company, and of the functions of the State department.

FUNCTIONS OF THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

The policy is a contract, and it fixes the respective rights and obligations of the policyholder and the company. The management is, theoretically at least, under the control of directors elected by policyholders or stockholders. The department is enjoined by law to ascertain the financial condition of the company, and ordinarily it can only interfere with the management by revoking the company's license when it is found to be in unsound financial condition. If the business is conducted according to the law, any attempt at control of the management by officers of the State would, under existing statutes, be an unauthorized, impertinent intrusion, and an assumption of authority held exclusively by policyholders or stockholders.

Whether a stock or mutual company, the funds managed substantially belong to the policyholders, and it is therefore recognized that the management should be for their benefit and the managers held responsible to them; and if the policyholders actually appointed, controlled and called to account the managers, or if by any feasible plan they could be enabled to do so, demands of policyholders for the State control of the management would seem unreasonable. The lack of practical control by policyholders inspires the demand for regulation by law that will result in such control; and the fear that such control cannot be so effectuated, or if effectuated that it may be illy exercised, creates the demand that the State also undertake control of the management.

The probability that widely scattered policyholders, with individual interests, insignificant when compared to the whole, and with no other incentive to co-operation, will not, under any system, exert effective, intelligent control over the management, and the incongruity of the State assuming control over, but not responsibility for, the management, strongly suggests that the ultimate result may be either the suppression of all companies, except capital stock companies, issuing non-participating policies or insurance conducted only by the State, or possibly insurance by the State and by non-participating stock companies only.

The general disposition, however, seems not only to tolerate stock as well as mutual companies promising policyholders participation in profits or savings, but to encourage or compel "mutualization" and to rely on control by policyholders and the law to enforce efficient, economical management and equitable distributions.

DEFERRED DIVIDENDS.

That mere statutory declarations against supposed evils cannot be relied on to safeguard policyholders and prevent impositions has been too frequently demonstrated. In the present agitation and discussion there is probably more unanimity in the condemnation of deferred dividends than any other feature, not so much, perhaps, because of their forfeitures by lapse of policy or that the dividends paid were so far short of what might have been paid, but because they were so much less than the initial estimates. Unwarranted, glittering estimates of deferred dividends partake of the character of visionary prospects in some unknown distant mine or a lottery ticket, and a large volume of the business of life insurance has doubtless been inspired by that human trait which buries all sensible doubts under an unreasoning hope of extraordinary if not magical returns. Deferred dividends have been disappointing to many. They are now unpopular and so condemned by public sentiment that even before the law has forbidden them a new form of the same allurement is invented in the offer of a policy together with stock or shares in the company, or in an auxiliary company, and estimates of future dividends thereon. A law forbidding deferred dividends might therefore have little if any effect on the real evil it seeks to condemn, and might prevent a sensible person and honest company consummating a desired legitimate contract, for, unless forfeiture by lapse is iniquitous, a deferred dividend is as well sustained in morals as any legitimate feature of life insurance.

Instances of the law's failure to prevent an evil it condemns should not, however, be urged as conclusive reasons against further attempts, but such instances are reminders that laws calculated to interfere with the conduct of what have heretofore been considered private contracts may have little if any effect in averting the evil condemned, while possibly resulting in much injury or inconvenience. That form of interference is desirable which will most likely accomplish the end desired and least likely thwart the plans of competent, honest management.

STANDARD POLICY FORMS.

While there has been competition in life insurance, it has not always been of the kind that results from intelligent comparisons of relative merits. If several savings banks are of known equal soundness and integrity the depositor ordinarily patronizes the one which pays the highest rate of interest. So one seeking life insurance in companies of equal standing would ordinarily apply to the one offering the most benefits and largest returns for his premium. Forms of contracts, however, are so varied that an ordinary person can with difficulty, if at all, determine such questions.

If the several kinds of policies were in the same form in the several companies, and they contained only guarantees and no stipulations for participation in savings or profits, then the relative cost of life insurance in the several companies would be easily ascertained by inspection of the respective tables of rates of the companies, and that relative cost, together with the relative manifestations of soundness and safety, would ordinarily control one seeking insurance in his choice of company. If participation in savings or profits were promised, then an annual report of dividends paid, credited or deferred, segregating the several ages, forms and durations, would, with the table of rates, furnish means of readily ascertaining the

past and estimating the future net cost of the insurance after deducting dividends from premiums.

The tendency of the companies is not toward uniform but toward differing forms of policies. Uniformity in this respect therefore cannot be expected unless the law shall establish standard forms of policies.

Naturally there is opposition to any dictation by the State of the terms in which individuals and corporations shall contract with each other respecting a legitimate subject matter and with which the law does not ordinarily interfere. Specifically it is urged that desirable forms have been inspired by competition, that such dictation by the State will prevent such competition, that forms designed by the State will differ in different States, will lack the genius of the expert and will furnish policyholders less favorable contracts than are now obtainable. When it is asserted that statutory forms will tend to eliminate deceptive, misleading and ambiguous contracts, it is suggested that power to forbid any such contracts be given to the Superintendent of Insurance.

It would seem that with painstaking efforts and the co-operation of the experts of the several companies standard forms could be designed which would provide for the substantial benefits desired by policyholders and protect the rights of both policyholder and company; and provision could be made for additional forms to provide for unusual circumstances or new meritorious forms, as the same might from time to time be proposed, and for varying forms used in other States when the laws of such States so require. Respecting the suggestion that standard forms be not adopted by law, but that, to prevent deceptive, misleading or ambiguous contracts, the policies of the several companies shall be approved by the Superintendent, it would seem that the mere statement of it sufficiently exhibits the objectionableness of the proposition that policies issued in each State shall be in such form as the Superintendent, for the time being, shall deem free from deceptive, misleading or ambiguous provisions.

Standard forms of policies and annual detailed reports of dividends would furnish means for intelligent comparisons of relative benefits and returns on invested premiums, and incite a competition which, while possibly so impelling overdoing in promises and payments of benefits and dividends as to require further regulations against possible insolvency, would tend to compel economy, honesty and capability in management.

As the inability of policyholders to actually control the operations of a business so widely and vitally affecting the people seems to suggest an imperative duty on the State to control the management, statutory standard forms of policies and annual reports of dividends seem to be the mode of exercising that control most promotive of the interest of policyholders while interfering least with the proper functions of those responsible for the management. While other statutory regulations may be desirable, further control over the management by the State in all the particulars now so frequently advocated might not then be necessary.

A committee was appointed by the Seventy-seventh General Assembly to whom were referred the pending bills relating to life insurance. It will have the benefit of the information and learning developed in the investigation by the New York Legislature and its committee, and the voluminous general discussions and arguments now available, and will have ample time in which to perfect wise measures relating to the subject of life insurance, and report the same, as it is directed to do, to the General Assembly in 1908.

Obituary.

Death of James E. Pulsford.

Mr. James E. Pulsford, the venerable former United States manager for the Liverpool and London and Globe insurance company, died at his home at South Orange, N. J., on Sunday in the ninetieth year of his age. Mr. Pulsford was the able American executive of the affairs of the great corporation from 1876 to 1887. He was born near Bath, England, December 16, 1816, and came to this country in 1856, but though a resident here fifty years he never became a citizen.

Prior to leaving his native country Mr. Pulsford was connected with the fire insurance business there. He entered the office of the Liverpool and London and Globe soon after his arrival in New York. His rare executive ability speedily found him promotion. He became chief clerk in time, and in 1865 assistant secretary. In 1871 he was appointed resident secretary, and in 1876 he succeeded Alfred Pell as resident manager. He resigned that office on account of advancing years in 1887, but was made at once one of the United States trustees, and continued in that position until his death. He was for many years and until very recently a regular attendant at the meetings of the trustees, and always took a lively interest in the business of the company.

Mr. Pulsford was a collector of rare books, and his library, besides containing many valuable manuscripts, held several rare Bibles and sets of Shakespeare, besides many bound volumes of ancient magazines. He belonged to the St. George Society of New York, was a director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, in New York, and of the New England Society of Orange.

Mr. Pulsford's father was Rev. Thomas Pulsford, of Devonshire, England, and he also had two brothers who were prominent clergymen in that country. They were Rev. John Pulsford and Rev. William Pulsford, of Glasgow, Scotland.

Mr. Pulsford moved to South Orange in 1868. In 1863 he married Miss Josephine Sherman, of New York, and she survives him, with these children: Dr. H. A. Pulsford, W. S. Pulsford and A. D. Pulsford, of South Orange; J. A. Pulsford, of Elizabeth, and Ernest Pulsford, of New York, and three daughters, Miss Alice, Miss Louise and Mrs. Chauncey C. Kennedy, of South Orange.

The funeral services were conducted at his home on Tuesday afternoon in the presence of a large number of the employees of the company and many other personal friends, by Archdeacon Lewis Campbell, rector of the Church of the Holy Communion at Orange.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., April 25.—The following order was offered in the Senate this afternoon by Senator Parker, Senate chairman of the Committee on Insurance:

Ordered. That the Committee on Insurance be authorized to sit during the recess of the General Court to revise, consolidate and arrange the general laws of the Commonwealth relative to insurance, and to consider the expediency of such legislation in amendment thereof and in addition thereto as they may deem advisable. They shall have authority to employ assistance as they may consider necessary, and to send for persons and papers; and their necessary expenses, as far as approved by the Governor and council, together with such compensation to the members as shall be determined by the Governor and council, shall be paid from time to time from the treasury of the Commonwealth. They shall be furnished by the sergeant-at-arms with a room in the State House or elsewhere and shall be provided with stationery and postage. They shall report to the next General Court on or before the second Wednesday of January next, and shall accompany their report with such recommendations for legislation as they may determine to be expedient. Any vacancies which may occur by death or resignation in the membership of the committee shall be filled by the president of the Senate if any such vacancy occurs among the Senate members of the committee and by the Speaker of the House of Representatives if any such vacancy occurs among the members of the committee from the House of Representatives.

BOSTON, Mass., April 24.—A sub-committee of the Insurance Committee waited on Governor Guild this afternoon and informed him of the desire of the whole committee to co-operate with him in relation to the proposed insurance reforms. The sub-committee said that the committee did not desire to shirk its legislative duties in the consideration of the large amount of

business before it, and it believed that it would be advisable for the whole committee to sit during the recess of the Legislature, if the Legislature should authorize it to do so. It could secure the assistance of legal experts as advisers in amending the insurance laws. It gave the Governor to understand that the Legislature would not be likely to agree with his ideas regarding the use of experts.

The Governor admitted the force of these statements and said that the results of the insurance experts are still available for the committee. He said that the essential point of his message would be preserved by thorough consideration of needed reforms, as shall be pointed out by the national insurance convention, which will meet next September.

The special commission has been voted $7,000 compensation for its two months' services, as far as the Senate Ways and Means Committee is concerned. It wanted $10,000. The committee thought $5,000 would be sufficient, and the two sides compromised on $7,000.

BOSTON, Mass., April 26.—Every one of the long list of matters before the Insurance Committee, with the exception of the three already reported upon, appears in today's legislative bulletin, as the basis of the order which was presented by the committee to the Senate yesterday by Senator Parker, chairman, that the committee be authorized to sit during the recess of the Legislature to revise and amend the insurance laws and to report to the next Legislature not later than the second Wednesday of next January. In a parliamentary sense, if the order is adopted, every one of these measures ceases to have any life, for they are not referred to the committee for investigation, but there is total absence of mention of specific matters in the order. The order was not reached in the Senate business today on account of the pressure of other work.

The first veto of Governor Guild was sent to the Legislature Wednesday, and refers to a bill proposing to lower the civil service standards of requirements for men in the fire departments of Massachusetts.

Mississippi.

Owing to the failure of the Governor to sign the fire prevention bureau bill of Mr. Alcorn, House No. 316, within the time required by law, it is dead for two years at least.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 20.—A caucus of the Republican members of the Senate was called for last night to whip into line the Senators who had opposed the publication of the lists of policyholders of mutual life insurance companies, as provided in the general bill of the Armstrong Committee. After a bitter debate a resolution was adopted amending the bill so as to allow the companies to expose the lists only during the campaigns for the elections of new directors and withhold them at other times. This was made a party measure, which meant that Senators who did not obey would lose their renominations for next year.

When the Senate convened it received from the Governor the following "emergency message":

I learned with regret of the adoption by the Senate of an amendment to the bill amending the insurance law generally, which took out of the bill the provision whereby policyholders were assured of information as to the names and residences of their associates.

The progress of the insurance legislation reported by the Armstrong Committee is followed by the people with the keenest interest. I feel that the public demands that these bills be enacted into law substantially as reported, and looks with suspicion upon all efforts to amend them. It would, in my judgment, be a matter for serious concern and deep regret if public opinion should hold that the work of this session on insurance was marred by the defeat of any of the committee's bills.

Senator White, who introduced and had passed the amendment which would have wiped out the publicity and mutualization features of the general bill, said that the caucus action was the most unjustifiable piece of work ever done to make the Republican Senators stultify themselves before their constituency and vote against their judgment.

"The action of invoking the caucus was the most unrighteous, the meanest, and the most unprecedented action on a measure of this kind ever carried out," said Senator White. "I do not recede from my position taken two days ago that to adopt the compromise measures agreed upon in the caucus would lay the companies open to blackmail and make them give up their most valuable asset. The action of the caucus is utterly subversive of decent and proper legislation. It is a frenzied sensationalism that is goading the members to do that which they do not believe in, and for which repentance will come all too soon."

Senator Malby said that he held exactly the same views. He said the amendment of the laws on insurance was quite as important as the investigation, and should have had the same time for consideration. He said the unprecedented spectacle was shown in the passage of these bills that all the new laws had been framed by the investigating committee and not one by the Legislature. Such legislation, he said, had nothing to recommend it and everything to condemn it. But, like Mr. White, Mr. Malby said that he must bow to the will of the caucus.

Then he attacked the action of the Governor by saying: "When the time of trouble comes and the people demand the repeal of much of this legislation and condemn you for doing what you have done, when you are being damned for not doing your public duty, at that time let the onus attaching to your actions today fall on the other fellow who has driven you into this position."

Under the roll call to reconsider the vote by which the White amendment prevailed the rest of the protestants took occasion to explain their votes and to tell that they considered themselves as much in the right today as they had yesterday, when they voted to emasculate the bill, but demands of party were too strong to resist. The motion to reconsider prevailed—39 to 4. Those voting in the negative were Senators Grady, Hasenflug, Kehoe and McCarren, Democrats.

The motion to substitute for the White amendment the one introduced by Armstrong, the provisions of which make very little change from the original draft of the bill except that after each election the list of policyholders may be withdrawn and not again filed until the next election, should there be a contest, was made the subject of a bitter attack by Senator Grady, who said that it was insulting to the intelligence of the Senators to offer it as a compromise.

"The performance we are now witnessing," he said, "could only proceed from weak men who could never add anything of merit to the laws of the State. Sworn officials, bound by oath to do their duty as their consciences dictate, furnish the spectacle of amending their views in twenty-four hours under the lash of the party whip. It is to laugh."

Senator Grady said that if the Insurance Committee had schemed for years to put domestic corporations at a disadvantage for the benefit of foreign corporations it could not have devised a better means than this bill. He accused the majority, and especially Senator Armstrong, of false pretense, and said that had he known that he (Grady) was playing a game with loaded dice he would have acted differently.

Senator Armstrong made a political speech attacking Senator Grady, and the amendment finally prevailed, 35 to 4, the same Senators being recorded in the opposition as before.

Senator Grady persisted in the face of the announcement by Senator Armstrong that the bills on which there was opposition would have to be passed so that the Assembly could concur in them, and got himself on the record. Every amendment was knocked out in order, until finally the big bill was passed by a

vote of yeas, 42; nays, 2; only two Senators, Grady and McCarren, voting against it.

This completed the passage of the last of the Armstrong bills, and these having been amended by the Senate, they were sent to the Assembly for final concurrence.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 24.—The Assembly this afternoon had a spirited debate over the bill of Assemblyman A. E. Smith to prevent fire insurance companies entering into or maintaining pools, trusts, conspiracies or agreements to control rates of insurance.

Assemblyman Rogers, chairman of the House Insurance Committee and a member of the Armstrong Committee, opposed the measure vigorously. He declared that fire insurance companies already are hard hit by the San Francisco disaster, and the enactment of this bill into law would seriously hamper them at a time when they need all the money they can raise to meet heavy losses. He believed it the part of wisdom to delay at least a year before considering such legislation as this measure proposed. Other members opposed the bill which was advocated by its sponsor and by Assemblyman Cox, a member of the Armstrong Committee. It was finally passed by a vote of 85 to 15. It now goes to the Senate.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 25.—The Assembly today concurred in the Senate amendments to the so called "big" insurance bill generally amending the insurance law, and the "anti-perjury" bill, these being the last of the bills introduced by the special insurance investigating committee of which Senator Armstrong is chairman.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 26.—Governor Higgins today signed the seventh of the insurance reform bills, that amending the law to prevent corrupt "lobbying." The new law provides that every person retained for compensation as counsel or agent by any person or corporation, to promote or oppose the passage of bills in the Legislature, shall annually, before such service is entered upon, file with the Secretary of State a statement of the contemplated service. These statements are to be matters of public record. This authorization is to expire thirty days after the adjournment of each legislative session.

The act takes effect immediately. With the approval of the bill Governor Higgins filed the following memorandum:

This bill compels every person employed as counsel or agent to promote or oppose the passage of bills in either house to file in the office of the Secretary of State a notice giving the names of his clients, together with a description of the legislation in reference to which he is employed. It prohibits employment of any such counsel or agent for a contingent fee. It prohibits any person from being employed to promote or oppose legislation whose appearance is not entered in accordance with the provisions of this act. Two months after the adjournment of the Legislature all persons and corporations employing legislative counsel or agents must file in the office of the Secretary of State a verified itemized statement, showing all expenses incurred in connection with legislation pending at the last previous session. Violation of the section is a misdemeanor, and civil penalties are also provided for.

This bill aims to insure publicity as to the relation of attorney and client and principal and agent existing in connection with legislative matters, and thereby to prevent secret lobbying and the use of so called "yellow dog" funds, and I approve it for the reason that it is a measure of importance to remedy a real evil. Future legislation will doubtless improve in some respects its provisions. The Massachusetts law allows a person to enter himself upon the docket as legislative counsel exclusively, and prohibits a person whose name is so entered from rendering service otherwise than by appearing before a committee and by doing work properly incident thereto, or by giving legal advice as regular legal counsel of corporations or associations. The Massachusetts statute further provides for a separate docket of legislative agents who may, by all other lawful methods than the above, promote or oppose legislation.

It would seem that lawyers of high repute might draw a distinction between the work of the legislative counsel and the work of the legislative agent, and might decline to register their appearance under this bill, which does not distinguish between the two classes of employment, but authorizes the agent to appear before committees and the counsel to engage in personal solicitation of individual members of the Legislature.

The bill contains no provision for the disbarment of legislative counsel or agents for improper practices, and in my judgment the bill would be strengthened if such a provision were added thereto.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 26.—The Assembly has concurred with the Senate in fixing the date of final adjournment on Thursday of next week, May 3.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 27.—The Governor has signed the Armstrong perjury bill.

Miscellany.

The Results of New York Life Insurance Legislation Discussed by W. C. Johnson—Governor Higgins and the Armstrong Committee Excoriated.

At the meeting of the Boston Life Underwriters' Association on Tuesday Mr. William C. Johnson, of New York, general agent of the Phœnix Mutual Life insurance company, made an address on the results of the life insurance legislation undertaken by the New York Legislature at the present session. He spoke of the value of agents' organizations, like the one he addressed, in enabling objection to dangerous legislation to be quickly focused upon those about to enact it, and he explained again in his lucid and convincing method the effects which the proposed limitation of agents' commissions would have had in destroying the agency system, and the nature of the amendments which were pressed upon the insurance committees, and which they finally accepted, averting, in part, at least, the threatened results.

In discussing the work of the Armstrong Committee and the subsequent action of the New York Legislature, Mr. Johnson said:

The judgment of the moment, excited and prejudiced as it has been, has attached a capability to the Armstrong Committee and a value to its work which are out of all proportion to the facts. Not even the stress of the times should prevent the trained mind from sanely testing the character and judgment of the committee by those standards which would prevail in an era of calmness and sanity. So tested, the work of the committee must be regarded as partial and incomplete. It was appointed by the Legislature of New York for the following purpose:

"To investigate and examine into the business and affairs of life insurance companies doing business in the State of New York, etc., with reference to the investments of said companies, the relation of the officers thereof to such investments, the relation of such companies to subsidiary corporations, the government and control of said companies, the contractual relations of said companies to their policyholders, the cost of life insurance, the expenses of said companies and any other phase of the life insurance business deemed by the committee to be proper, for the purpose of drafting and reporting to the next session of the Legislature such a revision of the laws regulating and relating to life insurance in this State as said committee may deem proper."

This purpose has never been fulfilled. The committee did not in any sense investigate the business of companies doing business in life insurance in New York. It devoted itself to an investigation of evils which had attached themselves to the managements of a few companies, and it ceased its work with a view of the situation naturally biased and incomplete, with practically no knowledge of the business, and certainly with no real familiarity with the character and operations of the majority of the companies doing business in New York State. They were so busy looking into the results of the high pressure methods of the companies of their own State that the merits of life insurance administration as a whole escaped their attention. They naturally came from their task with distorted vision, and with minds so poisoned that sane and reasonable recommendations could hardly be expected from them. The one redeeming feature of the investigation was the recognized integrity of purpose of the committee's

legal advisers, and it must have been the hand of its counsel which penned the following lines taken from the recommendations of the committee to the Legislature:

"The committee deems it inadvisable to recommend that the Legislature attempt to prescribe the expenditures of insurance corporations. The Legislature cannot undertake the management of the business. In seeking to secure economical administration it should not overstep the line which divides suitable State supervision from an utterly impracticable effort to prescribe details. The Legislature should aim to permit freedom of management subject to general regulations and complete publicity.

"The committee does not recommend that the rate of commissions be prescribed by law. Whether a company should pay a salary or a commission, whether it should pay a so called brokerage commission or an initial commission supplemented by reasonable renewals, are details of management which should be left to the decision of the directors."

This advice to the Legislature, given over the signature of every member of the Armstrong Committee, is excellent. The principles laid down are sane and sound.

Did they act on them? Not at all. It is not the province of the Legislature, they say, to fix rates of commission, and then they proceed to prepare and press through to final passage bills which do fix, by a hard and fast rule, the compensation to be paid agents, bills which name not only the percentage of renewal commission which can be paid but the period during which it is payable. They say the State should not interfere in the details of management, and forthwith they see to it that it does so interfere in connection with that most intimate detail of its management—the compensation it shall pay its own employees.

The committee lays down broad principles, and then, with a failure to translate principle into practice which is characteristic of superficial minds lacking in real knowledge, they, without substantial familiarity with the effect of what they are doing, proceed to restrict all the companies, not only in what they shall pay for new business and what they shall disburse for total expenses, but even as to the kind of insurance policies they shall issue, the amount of surplus they shall maintain, the method under which they shall distribute their dividends, the volume of business they shall issue, the kind of securities in which they may invest their funds, etc. Every reform sought could have been enforced by legislation along fundamental lines—by requiring the most complete publicity and by exacting such a detailed accountability every year, both to the State and to the policyholders, that hereafter competition in life insurance would have been directed, not toward growth or size, but toward efficient economy and a reduction in the cost of insurance. The committee, however, could not stop at sound provisions for publicity and accountability, but must needs go on and erect barriers around almost every feature affecting the conduct of the business, so restrictive in nature that insurance men will never be able to disassociate the good that may follow their sensible recommendations from the harm which will be done by their unsound limitations.

THE ARMSTRONG COMMITTEE A FAILURE, JUDGED BY ITS ACTS.

The committee will doubtless ask to be judged by the character of the bills as finally passed by the Legislature after it had heard and heeded the objections and advice of trained insurance men. This privilege can hardly be granted them, for, speaking in particular of the laws which affect the insurance operations of the companies, in so far as they contain unsound, injurious and unscientific restrictions, they represent an adherence by the committee to its own views; while to the extent that they are sound and reasonable, it is largely due to the adoption of the suggestions and recommendations of the insurance men who appeared before them. The capability of Mr. Armstrong and his associates must be weighed, not by the final result, to which others contributed and which is even yet far from perfect, but by the bills which they originally presented to the Legislature.

If you will judge them by that standard I need say little more. The plain business man can form his own opinion upon simply recalling that they seriously proposed to legislate the insurance companies into a position of unsoundness and insecurity by limiting the surplus which the largest companies could maintain to but 2 per cent. of their total assets, a margin so small that insolvency would necessarily have followed the next period of financial stringency. Insurance men in turn may base their judgment upon the fact that the committee earnestly urged the adoption of a standard of agency expense which in the opinion of every insurance expert in the land would have practically destroyed the agency organizations of all the companies, and put a stop to the writing of new business.

Would you trust the physician you had called to treat your children if, after discovering they were suffering from a local eruption, he, because of ignorance or misapprehension, seriously proposed to "cure" them by administering a fatal dose of strychnine to each? On the contrary he would forfeit for all time your confidence and your respect. To what extent should our judgment differ when we weigh the capabilities of men who, either through their ignorance of the real character of the prescription they offered or urged by the grant of a brief authority to take a restrictive action, even though they knew not its purport, proposed to destroy the agency business of the land, because, forsooth, from a superficial investigation, they had discovered the existence of some easily cured evils in connection with it?

AN INSTANCE OF UNFAIRNESS.

Insurance men have not been believed during the past few months of insurance excitement when they suggested that the Armstrong Committee lacked real breadth and capacity and showed no desire to constructively benefit the business, seeking only that which was evil and sensational. Yet the committee itself furnishes in its report to the Legislature the strongest possible indorsement of this view of insurance men that they were narrow, prejudiced and unfair—destructive rather than constructive in their tendencies and desires. Take one incident alone, furnishing as it does an index to the spirit in which their entire work was done. The committee asked the out of the State companies, whose affairs they did not take time to investigate, for written answers to certain inquiries, including the question of what retainers they had paid lawyers for the past ten years.

One company of a neighboring State, broadly known for the integrity and propriety of its management, upon going over the books found that its regular counsel had annually charged them a retainer of $100 in addition to moderate fees for any special legal cases they were called on to handle during the year. The firm of lawyers in question is one of the oldest and best known in all New England, its members properly possessing a reputation for probity which even the counsel of the Armstrong Committee might well envy. The insurance company in question has had very little litigation or need for legal advice, but for many years had published the name of this firm of lawyers as its counsel. This, of course, bound the lawyers to attend to any legal business the company might have, and in turn prevented them from accepting compensation for any outside work affecting the company. So the lawyers, in accordance with both legal precedent and entire propriety, charged the company an annual retainer—of what? Five, or ten or twenty thousand dollars, as would probably have been the case in New York under similar circumstances? No; they charged the company $100 per annum!

But now comes the significant point. The committee, in its printed volumes, includes this list of retainers, $100 a year for ten years, and, without making further inquiry or investigation concerning the facts, makes the comment that while the object of these retainers does not appear (they could have ascertained it had they taken the trouble) the inference is plain that they were for legislative services! Is not the inference equally plain that the purpose of these retainers was to encourage aerial navigation? The fact that in a formal permanent record of this character the committee, without effort to learn the facts, makes unjust and uncalled for inferences concerning a reputable company, which would tend to injure it in the popular esteem; the fact that they cast unwarranted aspersions on a firm of distinguished lawyers evidently did not concern them nor is it the point I wish to bring out.

I refer to the incident as proving the prejudiced, unfair and destructive spirit in which the committee's work was conducted. This applies to their counsel as well as to the members of the committee, for if he had been dealing with a matter in a court of law, where justice must be done the rights of all, he would have been the last to attempt to draw inferences of this character, which lacked basis in fact, and the very suggestion of which, under the circumstances, without any attempt at a verification, indicates an absence of that broad and judicial spirit which ever marks the really able members of the bar.

NEW YORK LEGISLATION DISCREDITED OUTSIDE THE STATE.

By the facts they must be judged. In truth it is already becoming evident that the character, both of the investigation and of the recommendations of the Armstrong Committee, is

(*Continued on page* 321.)

Life Insurance Payments.

The following is the report of the life insurance companies doing business in the United States to THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER of the death claims and endowments paid by them during the month of March, 1906:

COMPANIES.	Death Claims.	Endowments.	Total Payments.
Ætna Life	$212,150	$177,849	$389,999
American Central, Ind	4,000	14,194	18,194
Baltimore Life	12,237	12,304	24,541
Boston Mutual	18,537	------	18,537
Central Life	8,553	9,000	17,553
Citizens Life	5,000	------	5,000
Colonial Life	17,582	------	17,582
Columbia Life	------	------	------
*Columbian National Life	13,858	------	13,858
Connecticut General Life	21,110	15,400	36,510
Connecticut Mutual Life	457,965	29,198	487,163
Des Moines Life	8,009	------	8,009
Equitable Life, Des Moines	17,522	1,000	18,522
Equitable Life, New York	1,808,690	375,924	2,184,614
Federal Life	9,500	------	9,500
Fidelity Mutual	157,043	------	157,043
Franklin Life	41,871	------	41,871
Germania Life	204,098	224,296	428,394
†† Hartford Life	157,230	------	157,230
Home Life	69,970	30,681	100,651
Inter-State Life	15,441	------	15,441
* John Hancock Mutual Life	435,843	22,492	458,335
Manhattan Life	121,997	23,003	145,000
Maryland Life	13,372	1,000	14,372
Massachusetts Mutual Life	222,818	23,646	246,464
Meridian Life and Trust	8,038	------	8,038
*Metropolitan Life	1,524,744	6,300	1,531,044
Michigan Mutual Life	59,033	21,767	80,800
Minnesota Mutual Life	34,492	------	34,492
Mutual Benefit Life	451,991	141,613	593,604
Mutual Life	2,148,941	566,627	2,715,568
Mutual Reserve Life	242,875	------	242,875
National Life U S. A	37,559	1,000	38,559
National Life, Montpelier	112,801	38,000	151,801
Nederlands (U. S. Branch)	135,674	------	35,674
New England Mutual Life	------	------	------
New York Life	2,180,950	773,293	2,954,243
Northwestern Mutual Life	837,988	128,148	966,136
Penn Mutual Life	308,941	169,699	478,640
Phœnix Mutual Life	109,931	11,182	121,113
Provident Savings Life, New York	131,240	------	131,240
Provident Life and Trust	126,355	178,397	304,752
† Prudential	1,296,126	12,289	1,308,415
Reliance Life	4,000	------	4,000
Security Mutual Life	76,084	------	76,084
Security Trust and Life	38,895	------	38,895
State Life	54,708	------	54,708
State Mutual Life	81,620	31,000	112,620
Travelers	177,233	60,342	237,574
Union Central Life	------	------	------
Union Mutual Life	44,379	237	44,616
United States Life	66,200	10,537	76,737
Washington Life	161,433	33,248	194,681
Canada Life	130,870	28,182	159,052
Sun Life of Canada	------	------	------
Totals	$14,537,497	$3,171,848	$17,709,345

* Partially industrial insurance. † Report includes both industrial and ordinary business. †† Report includes death claims and endowments.

Payments Since Organization.

The following table shows the total amount reported paid on death claims and endowments, from their organization to March 31, 1906, inclusive, by the life insurance companies whose monthly reports are printed in THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER:

Date of Organization.	COMPANIES.	Death Claims.	Endowments.	Total Payments.
1850	Ætna Life	$66,411,927	$31,739,875	$98,151,802
1899	American Central, Ind	199,701	14,194	213,895
1898	Baltimore Life	2,999,421	98,783	3,098,203
1899	Boston Mutual Life	521,839	------	521,839
1896	Central Life	91,158	9,000	100,158
1904	Citizens Life	24,000	------	24,000
1898	† Colonial Life	466,064	------	466,064
1903	Columbia Life	10,568	------	10,568
1902	* Columbian National Life	282,471	------	282,471
1865	Connecticut General Life	3,759,687	1,308,703	5,068,390
1846	Connecticut Mutual Life	128,992,433	16,789,048	145,781,481
1885	Des Moines Life	1,940,489	------	1,940,489
1867	Equitable Life, New York	273,031,525	34,908,612	307,940,137
1859	Equitable Life, Des Moines	1,390,696	306,153	1,696,849
1900	Federal Life	128,296	------	128,296
1879	Fidelity Mutual	12,566,985	------	12,566,985
1884	Franklin Life	2,220,483	------	2,220,483
1860	Germania Life	31,072,619	12,379,488	43,452,107
1867	†† Hartford Life	------	------	29,442,569
1860	Home Life	15,468,753	4,075,540	19,544,293
1897	Inter-State Life	188,511	------	188,511
1862	* John Hancock Mutual Life	40,083,617	2,234,281	42,317,898
1850	Manhattan Life	34,595,744	5,850,985	40,446,729
1864	Maryland Life	3,047,586	262,812	3,310,398
1851	Massachusetts Mutual Life	30,204,409	4,922,178	35,126,586
1898	Meridian Life and Trust	55,859	------	55,859
1867	* Metropolitan Life	154,646,242	928,340	155,574,582
1867	Michigan Mutual Life	6,940,983	3,392,764	10,333,747
1901	Minnesota Mutual Life	3,957,270	------	3,957,270
1845	Mutual Benefit Life	115,730,662	14,307,951	130,038,613
1843	Mutual Life, New York	115,730,662	14,307,951	130,038,614
1881	Mutual Reserve Life	60,393,154	------	60,393,154
1868	National Life U. S. A	7,911,935	354,989	8,266,924
1850	National Life, Montpelier	15,690,879	2,881,203	18,572,082
1893	Nederlands Life (U. S. Branch)	1,499,417	1,000	1,500,417
1844	New England Mutual Life	48,956,073	9,677,846	58,633,919
1845	New York Life	243,498,653	55,060,686	298,559,339
1857	Northwestern Mutual Life	88,399,485	22,149,628	110,549,113
1868	Pacific Mutual Life	6,564,152	1,298,521	7,862,673
1847	Penn Mutual Life	43,117,124	9,059,743	52,176,867
1851	Phœnix Mutual Life	26,772,792	5,104,583	31,877,375
1865	Provident Life and Trust	22,504,380	15,793,743	38,298,123
1878	Provident Savings Life, New York	21,014,294	21,955	21,036,249
1876	† Prudential	98,366,129	281,562	98,647,691
1903	Reliance Life	52,798	------	52,798
1887	Security Mutual Life	3,669,355	------	3,669,355
1895	Security Trust and Life	2,767,032	5,151	2,772,183
1894	State Life	1,733,869	------	1,733,869
1845	State Mutual Life	14,475,153	3,192,085	17,667,238
1871	Travelers	19,321,815	4,685,824	24,007,640
1866	Union Central Life	15,851,081	4,228,060	20,079,142
1867	Union Mutual Life	19,126,539	6,124,969	25,251,508
1849	United States Life	17,597,148	2,479,854	20,077,002
1850	Washington Life	22,159,088	9,543,899	31,672,988
1850	Canada Life	18,950,239	2,537,294	21,487,533
1847	Sun Life of Canada	7,601,218	1,709,179	9,310,397
	Totals	$1,874,755,452	$304,028,432	2,208,226,444

* Partially industrial insurance. † Report includes both industrial and ordinary business. †† Report includes death claims and endowments.

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being recognized. Some of its chief recommendations, including those affecting the limitation of agents' commissions, were disapproved by the conference of insurance commissioners and attorneys general, which was called to meet in Chicago by the direction of President Roosevelt. The President himself in a recent message to Congress indorses, not the legislation proposed in New York State, but the report of the Chicago conference. The legislatures of Kentucky, Iowa, Maryland and Ohio have deferred action on insurance matters till their next session, by which time the uniform laws to be drafted by the Chicago conference will be ready. Governor Guild, with sound common sense, in a message to the General Court of your own State, has suggested the continuance of your insurance commission and the postponement of new legislation in Massachusetts until next year, aptly adding that no State except New York had attempted to act in advance of the report of the Chicago conference, and that those persons best qualified to express an opinion upon the condition of legislation in that State believe the bills just passed there will require revision next year.

IMPROPER CONDUCT OF GOVERNOR HIGGINS.

As set off against this action of the Governor of Massachusetts, let us view the recent conduct of the Governor of New York, illustrating as it does the perverted and unsound condition of public opinion in that State. The Governor is, under the constitution, the executive officer of the State, his only relation to the legislative function of the government, beyond the recommendations contained in his formal messages, being that upon him shall rest the responsibility of approving or disapproving every bill after it shall have passed the Senate and Assembly.

Last week the Senate, after listening attentively to a debate covering several hours, passed an amendment to one section of the pending insurance bill. Bear in mind I am not now discussing the merits of the amendment, on which honest minds can differ, but the excited state of the public mind which permits official misconduct to go unnoticed. Following the passage of the amendment, but before the bill had

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Life Insurance Business in North Dakota in 1905.

(Compiled from a Statement by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued.		Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905.		Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		
Ætna	203	$314,540	816	$1,231,850	$43,132	$6,500
Bankers' Res., Neb.	12	31,500	31	89,000	3,811	------
Bankers, Iowa	55	110,000	130	260,000	3,214	------
Equitable, N. Y.	196	351,110	1,349	2,773,976	72,432	29,583
Fidelity Mutual	278	511,000	594	1,160,212	42,691	4,500
Germania	144	266,900	959	2,021,011	85,585	7,000
Home, New York	11	22,074	33	56,950	3,188	74
Manhattan	322	604,852	691	1,121,597	38,528	2,752
Minnesota Mutual	158	471,513	339	901,136	28,237	4,000
Minnesota Scan.	7	7,500	86	96,500	1,622	2,000
Missouri State	92	166,100	223	333,500	6,669	3,000
Mutual Life, N. Y.	364	540,806	2,486	4,290,051	132,250	33,182
Mutual Benefit	123	229,146	418	782,270	28,302	1,000
Mutual Reserve	7	9,360	259	437,468	13,370	3,000
National U. S. A.	3	9,222	53	50,647	3,617	72
National, Vt.	25	40,593	18	28,531	1,204	1,000
New York Life	1,340	2,442,971	5,447	10,456,734	343,392	56,328
Northwestern Mut.	206	440,500	2,612	4,737,333	148,223	24,198
Northwestern Nat.	55	48,296	538	557,542	25,228	6,900
Phœnix Mutual	1	1,000	34	52,546	3,218	------
Pacific Mutual	1	514	4	2,337	79	------
Provident Savings	6	21,053	54	247,193	8,062	------
Prudential	42	62,044	147	241,472	11,125	1,000
State Life, Ind.	114	478,980	182	797,270	31,974	------
Security Mutual	165	369,393	700	1,310,899	32,491	------
Surety Fund, Minn.	161	342,000	261	538,000	3,278	------
Travelers	24	38,500	267	655,246	21,975	6,881
Union Central	389	948,000	984	2,583,691	112,140	------
Washington	44	61,000	139	222,021	6,705	2,539
Totals, 1905	4,548	$8,940,467	19,854	$33,036,983	$1,255,742	$195,509
" 1904	4,402	8,317,742	16,062	29,393,117	1,204,486	138,293
" 1903	4,202	7,418,162	15,060	29,147,111	996,225	119,338
" 1902	3,903	6,982,449	13,821	25,820,904	885,676	159,732
" 1901	2,601	4,982,449	10,997	20,636,416	659,902	125,893
" 1900	1,780	2,702,293	8,136	15,921,108	520,942	131,138
" 1899	1,635	2,912,416	7,241	14,923,169	492,792	56,359
" 1898	1,422	2,518,777	6,360	12,600,117	266,175	81,077
" 1897	1,252	2,129,502	5,887	11,998,892	338,423	68,165
" 1896	1,125	2,012,384	5,295	11,148,126	307,846	63,258

Life Insurance Business in Oregon in 1905.

(Compiled from a Statement by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued.		Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905.		Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		
Ætna	70	$168,721	425	$801,471	$27,462	$5,592
Bankers, Iowa	402	984,000	2,397	4,794,000	39,209	18,000
Bankers, Neb.	11	16,000	33	53,500	2,235	------
Bankers' Reserve	47	96,500	61	124,000	5,108	------
Connecticut Mut.	46	65,746	239	384,867	9,013	29,618
Conservative	443	738,663	545	1,101,358	46,111	2,341
Des Moines	28	48,000	146	534,000	18,276	1,000
Equitable, N. Y.	467	662,848	2,453	5,918,349	228,597	77,141
Fidelity Mutual	39	64,086	192	383,563	11,028	------
Germania	236	368,600	340	538,865	27,181	2,501
Home Life	1	1,200	121	224,666	7,469	------
Manhattan	135	292,866	620	1,408,533	49,325	15,048
Massachusetts Mut.	264	609,500	1,639	3,494,268	124,618	14,500
Metropolitan	4,347	963,920	9,928	2,018,046	68,215	13,523
Minnesota Mutual	40	120,000	98	274,620	8,763	------
Mutual Benefit	132	374,127	646	1,697,398	63,977	1,000
Mutual Life, N. Y.	1,415	2,534,005	4,342	8,916,228	312,276	34,095
Mutual Reserve	211	571,157	395	964,697	41,334	25,098
National, Vt.	62	91,000	60	84,000	2,567	------
National U. S. A.	26	58,182	24	52,882	2,218	------
New York	711	1,218,693	3,504	7,237,955	275,375	73,119
Northwestern Mut.	450	1,030,500	3,099	7,474,730	254,206	25,500
Northwestern Nat.	1,030	829,959	1,692	2,030,052	63,767	5,994
Penn Mutual	485	1,010,241	2,392	5,098,173	200,553	31,258
Phœnix Mutual	150	543,500	169	542,595	14,858	2,000
Provident Savings	82	152,781	330	1,141,441	43,634	810
Prudential	136	156,430	186	210,900	8,138	------
Security Mutual	36	44,133	49	67,188	2,350	------
Security T. and L.	101	341,500	101	335,000	13,423	------
State Life, Ind.	37	121,000	173	706,520	24,882	------
Travelers	------	------	48	60,297	3,782	5,000
Union Central	101	260,200	182	492,182	17,397	5,000
Union Mutual	127	182,251	638	1,001,915	31,253	10,588
Washington	116	239,382	538	956,667	48,413	9,875
Totals, 1905	12,074	$14,959,691	37,805	$61,124,926	$2,097,011	$408,601
" 1904	12,085	14,710,841	32,990	54,390,321	1,877,995	491,275
" 1903	11,627	12,128,071	28,587	46,676,816	1,577,252	377,523
" 1902	9,193	10,323,282	23,531	40,098,243	1,321,930	289,602
" 1901	11,500	9,482,511	20,790	34,913,490	1,110,341	353,814
" 1900	9,581	9,808,458	18,153	31,222,624	950,180	208,128
" 1899	2,303	5,306,638	9,382	22,456,497	730,940	200,128
" 1898	1,007	4,872,497	7,299	20,481,605	625,436	292,957
" 1897	1,558	3,678,786	6,993	18,067,199	544,302	307,370

Life Insurance Business in South Dakota in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued.		Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
	No.	Amount.		
Ætna, Hartford	64	$89,942	$21,548	$4,000
Bankers' Reserve, Omaha	62	109,500	34,153	11,500
Bankers' Reserve Fund, Cinc't'i	125	381,000	24,700	------
Central Life, Des Moines	208	302,950	18,923	3,000
Connecticut General, Hartford	------	------	756	------
Des Moines, Des Moines	12	12,000	5,860	------
Equitable Life, Des Moines	98	149,986	24,188	1,300
Equitable Life, New York	421	725,209	69,386	15,129
Fidelity Mutual, Philadelphia	81	120,094	6,619	------
Germania Life, New York	115	161,100	24,199	3,025
Home Life, New York	266	403,700	25,987	3,100
Mutual Life, New York	860	1,126,064	174,858	30,034
Mutual Benefit Life, Newark	204	288,211	36,796	------
Minnesota Mutual, St. Paul	61	162,662	11,048	4,000
Mutual Reserve, New York	117	247,500	21,827	7,658
Northwestern Mut., Milwaukee	596	1,036,000	274,727	59,904
New York Life, New York	539	793,630	190,140	23,251
National Life U. S. A., Chicago	66	119,770	20,338	300
National Life, Montpelier	6	7,000	100	6,000
Northwestern Nat., Minneapolis	235	216,359	46,919	11,250
Phœnix Mutual, Hartford	55	74,000	6,182	------
Pacific Mutual, San Francisco	3	4,553	272	------
Prudential, Newark	94	138,624	15,317	------
Provident Savings, New York	92	153,509	23,912	------
Reliance Life, Binghamton	35	50,584	11,195	2,500
Royal Union Mut., Des Moines	9	10,000	540	------
Security Mutual, Binghamton	3	14,000	935	------
State Life, Indianapolis	262	476,210	57,128	14,235
Standard L. and A., Detroit	------	676,500	7,258	1,395
Travelers, Hartford	35	76,355	9,263	1,923
Union Central, Cincinnati	108	220,750	38,035	7,000
Western Mut., Aberdeen, S. D.	45	57,500	2,681	------
Totals, 1905	4,877	$8,405,262	$1,205,792	$210,504
" 1904	5,058	8,546,448	1,164,905	162,645
" 1903	5,953	8,798,270	1,021,721	207,473
" 1902	4,995	7,260,904	885,146	116,223
" 1901	3,336	4,605,252	628,990	104,554
" 1900	------	3,494,176	520,414	103,808
" 1899	------	3,731,252	466,817	78,307
" 1898	------	2,569,801	363,910	68,180
" 1897	------	2,516,317	360,265	60,550

Assessment companies and fraternal orders wrote 6,197 certificates for $7,699,000 in South Dakota in 1905.

Fire Insurance Business in North Dakota in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$2,043,721	$42,645	$11,107
British America, Toronto	561,294	11,076	4,439
British American, New York	29,888	586	111
Citizens, St. Louis	788,860	16,270	1,372
Commercial Union, London	1,849,705	40,340	11,024
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	1,711,972	32,425	9,982
Continental, New York	1,487,354	31,704	8,459
Fire Association of Philadelphia	1,339,323	30,723	2,188
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	1,800,604	35,464	9,472
German Alliance, New York	543,134	11,618	3,506
German American, New York	2,005,253	44,839	17,695
German, Freeport	340,253	5,440	------
Germania Fire, New York	500,825	9,697	1,391
Hanover Fire, New York	1,083,853	23,432	12,691
Hartford Fire, Hartford	5,285,679	108,997	50,228
Home, New York	4,931,480	81,336	29,578
Insurance Company of N. America	1,682,798	35,037	9,891
Liverpool & London & Globe, N. Y.	120,163	2,188	34
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liv'p'l	2,792,460	52,750	36,601
Moscow Fire, Moscow	162,533	2,859	3,917
National Fire, Hartford	1,254,970	17,986	687
National Union Fire, Pittsburgh	29,800	544	------
Niagara Fire, New York	523,908	9,990	2,926
North British and Mercantile, London	773,252	13,628	4,877
Northern, London	545,848	10,875	556
Northwestern Fire and Marine	4,005,969	75,451	20,285
Norwich Union, Norwich	925,384	19,516	6,439
Palatine, London	677,340	15,927	5,388
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	1,284,818	25,172	11,185
Phenix, Brooklyn	1,922,366	43,330	22,542
Phœnix, London	420,541	8,196	3,072
Phœnix, Hartford	1,668,519	31,313	10,068
Providence-Washington, Providence	972,395	14,041	609
Queen City Fire, Sioux City	673,147	13,252	1,730
Queen, New York	1,344,720	28,874	7,136
Royal, Liverpool	813,128	15,440	2,126
Springfield Fire and Marine, Springf'd	2,766,553	50,546	20,556
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	10,000,378	154,158	59,635
Sun, London	215,950	3,909	133
Traders, Chicago	492,241	8,853	1,019
Western, Toronto	689,747	12,122	5,014
Totals, 1905	$63,439,748	$1,192,550	$409,679

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$45,186,733	$917,316	$419,381
1903	48,561,939	1,122,166	604,948
1902	44,280,012	1,100,492	672,448
1901	42,901,293	701,096	519,103
1900	40,200,576	736,368	495,663
1899	35,846,363	759,493	571,683
1898	26,569,911	543,829	491,286
1897	24,840,518	491,331	333,270
1896	20,025,730	449,460	138,945
1895	20,373,943	439,311	219,920
1894	17,564,712	390,578	265,560
1893	22,622,666	442,330	1,409,917
1892	23,139,886	439,799	191,762
1891	19,585,850	370,350	140,618
1890	18,647,165	341,053	163,112

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the sixteen years embraced in the above table is 66.7. The percentage for 1905 was 34.3.

Fire Insurance Business in South Dakota in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Statement by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$1,412,813	$20,604	$13,111
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	976,965	15,834	4,282
Columbia Fire, Omaha	1,730,887	25,395	10,349
Consolidated F. & M., Al. Lea, Minn.	1,074,970	14,481	2,657
Citizens, St. Louis	359,376	5,603	3,365
Continental, New York	2,359,993	34,627	16,364
Commercial Union, London	1,290,880	21,935	17,289
Fire Association, Philadelphia	1,046,776	18,204	10,350
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	870,320	12,810	5,921
Germania Fire, New York	669,998	9,465	5,385
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	405,183	5,172	225
German, Freeport	4,824,077	56,970	21,782
German American, New York	2,123,904	32,120	16,213
German Alliance, New York	402,275	6,159	3,348
Hanover Fire, New York	657,878	9,747	3,067
Hartford Fire, Hartford	3,807,772	57,717	27,965
Home, New York	3,162,335	42,190	32,080
Insurance Company of N. America	1,790,163	28,252	15,076
Indemnity Fire, New York	125,010	2,184	498
Lond. and Lancashire Fire, Liverpool.	403,220	6,212	3,243
Liverpool and London and Globe	1,713,679	22,601	19,405
Law Union and Crown, London	150,950	3,120	3,920
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	547,728	7,863	3,685
North British & Mercantile, London.	696,689	10,316	6,195
Northern, London	491,130	7,641	6,277
Niagara Fire, New York	654,602	10,542	5,020
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	935,623	9,388	5,324
Norwich Union, Norwich	535,820	9,421	1,483
National Fire, Hartford	2,098,484	26,524	5,938
Northwestern Fire and Marine	974,045	13,443	2,044
Orient, Hartford	357,871	5,435	3,237
Phœnix, London	366,679	6,095	4,701
Phœnix, Hartford	913,782	13,243	6,078
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	982,466	14,917	9,340
Phenix, Brooklyn	2,810,856	46,502	20,643
Palatine, London	455,790	8,740	9,234
Providence-Washington, Providence	466,846	4,946	1,142
Queen City Fire, Sioux Falls, S. D.	1,972,754	45,491	8,498
Queen, New York	656,826	10,383	4,797
Royal, Liverpool	695,704	11,283	5,479
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	1,379,306	18,117	12,424
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	6,161,040	86,578	31,286
Sun, London	228,325	3,079	133
Traders, Chicago	532,383	8,822	3,863
Union, London	232,409	4,547	3,102
Totals, 1905	$56,506,581	$834,715	$395,820
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$44,317,300	$679,471	$244,676
1903	40,727,054	669,238	251,709
1902	37,368,116	618,787	230,910
1901	30,838,747	503,358	228,273
1900	28,752,541	458,212	408,360
1899	27,217,678	435,685	229,664
1898	22,199,676	403,239	191,966
1897	21,302,887	382,237	144,939
1896	17,577,573	360,648	185,395
1895	17,911,137	368,714	209,397
1894	18,745,334	396,047	186,753
1893	22,572,373	474,769	207,249
1892	17,962,955	424,677	133,434
1891	24,783,613	487,688	217,003
1880 to 1890	22,304,919	422,061	206,867

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the sixteen years embraced in the above table is 45.7. The percentage for 1905 was 47.4.

Fire Insurance Business in Oregon in 1905.

(Compiled from a Statement by the Secretary of State.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$1,296,495	$42,536	$30,145
Ætna, Hartford	1,525,838	66,783	25,925
Agricultural, Watertown	685,689	32,668	12,229
Alliance, London	2,599,687	46,806	17,657
American Central, St. Louis	1,803,353	36,554	6,487
American Fire, Philadelphia	1,723,073	82,171	18,306
American, Newark	556,041	17,371	3,883
Atlas, London	1,011,062	30,690	12,380
Caledonian, Edinburgh	2,623,583	48,483	14,968
California, San Francisco	503,537	10,412	------
Citizens, St. Louis	562,926	11,396	12,029
Commercial Union, London	3,013,122	54,646	22,972
Concordia Fire, Milwaukee	304,116	8,621	725
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	1,552,332	43,975	23,655
Continental, New York	1,983,041	38,096	11,849
Fire Association of Philadelphia	1,632,568	49,370	50,011
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	5,205,273	116,909	24,510
German Alliance, New York	493,185	16,390	4,542
German American, New York	1,747,873	48,553	17,282
Germania Fire, New York	721,119	15,452	1,058
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	1,438,559	33,843	7,464
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	1,368,482	38,177	10,114
Hanover Fire, New York	523,867	17,339	6,336
Hartford Fire, Hartford	5,261,016	109,100	72,221
Home Fire & Marine, San Francisco.	4,170,443	96,716	22,119
Home, New York	3,651,566	86,246	39,686
Insurance Company of N. America	1,107,781	29,602	15,245
Law Union and Crown, London	1,370,136	18,828	10,619
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverp'l.	4,269,550	93,963	24,244
London Assurance Corporation	2,607,619	58,676	16,413
London and Lancashire F., Liverpool.	2,661,682	56,628	7,490
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	904,738	19,099	2,639
National Fire, Hartford	4,816,216	52,483	14,359
National Union Fire, Pittsburgh	2,218,222	57,079	19,556
New Zealand, Auckland	1,578,520	31,827	15,573
Niagara Fire, New York	2,173,256	51,353	16,744
N. British and Mercantile, London	2,086,011	59,625	35,502
Northern, London	2,183,941	62,860	25,670
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	169,900	2,901	------
Norwich Union Fire, Norwich	3,289,696	64,227	19,520
Orient, Hartford	1,495,804	30,883	15,772
Palatine, London	1,604,687	28,709	7,432
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	1,184,567	34,583	12,178
Phenix, Brooklyn	2,115,230	49,210	15,333
Phœnix, London	1,168,831	35,754	30,359
Phœnix, Hartford	1,780,225	37,822	8,954
Queen, New York	2,212,646	43,765	25,622
Royal Exchange, London	3,059,562	79,908	24,798
Royal, London	5,931,091	125,560	32,592
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	1,400,535	29,712	5,572
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh.	1,073,239	32,673	13,728
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	2,562,870	61,936	12,735
Sun, London	1,210,711	42,115	22,681
Traders, Chicago	902,638	24,686	14,436
Union, London	2,137,397	28,512	18,006
Westchester Fire, New York	861,063	19,931	4,281
Western, Toronto	734,283	17,063	12,234
Totals, 1905	$110,830,493	$2,581,274	$968,840
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$110,557,192	$2,542,425	$775,365
1903	95,531,485	2,245,373	1,314,660
1902	86,480,412	1,913,393	659,149
1901	61,424,982	1,220,240	410,099
1900	56,076,089	985,888	396,682
1899	55,306,051	1,030,409	341,317
1898	50,101,902	979,264	419,763
1897	37,045,696	761,084	414,741
1896	41,980,575	848,119	394,235
1895	42,291,602	813,517	415,053
1894	45,297,428	936,068	640,947
1893	48,578,068	1,055,505	420,727
1892	64,009,443	1,270,698	729,160
1891	56,663,841	1,297,155	697,089
1880 to 1890	229,515,523	6,030,508	2,221,912

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 42.3. The percentage in 1905 was 37.5.

(Continued from page 321.)

been actually passed and presented to him for consideration, the Governor, exceeding all his constitutional prerogatives, issued to the public a statement deprecating the action of the Senate, and, going further, sent for individual Senators, and, according to newspaper reports, lectured and threatened them, demanding that the amendment should be reconsidered. He, with Senators Armstrong and Brackett, forced the call of a Republican caucus, at which the reconsideration of the amendment and passage of the bill itself were made party measures, and the next day the Senators had either to break with their party, and so destroy themselves politically, or go into the Senate chamber and change their votes, not subject to the

restraints of duty or conscience, but in response to the crack of the party whip, wielded by or at the instigation of Governor Higgins.

On the floor of the Senate this action has since properly been described, by one of its ablest and most distinguished members (the member from the Thirty-second) as the most unrighteous, the meanest and most unjust action ever taken, dragooning and coercing men, through an appeal to their love of party, to act and vote against their honest convictions. And the next day what do we meet? A statement from Mr. Armstrong, dishonoring his office as a legislator, boasting that he is sincerely proud of the Governor, who "acted instantly" in a matter concerning which he, at that stage, had no constitutional authority to act at all, "and literally took the situation by the neck and shook it out so effectually that resistance practically ceased at once."

By the words of his friends the Governor of New York stands convicted of coercing the Senators to act contrary to their consciences, and of a usurpation of the legislative function which is unparalleled in the history of the State. This is followed by editorial articles in the great metropolitan journals calling the Governor a wise and good man, and commending him for action which in a period of sanity and self restraint would have led those same journals to ask at once for his impeachment.

Truly nothing more is needed to justify my statement that the views to be found today in the press in no sense represent either the real opinion of our citizens or that sound common sense which is inherent in the American people. My words, gentlemen, will be little noted at the present, but when the existing excitement over insurance matters quiets down and the equilibrium of the public is restored, others will wonder with me how such things could have happened in what is usually regarded as a conservative and well ordered State.

The San Francisco Conflagration—Statements by the Companies.

Aachen and Munich.—A Berlin dispatch of April 25 says: "The Aachen and Munich fire insurance company and the Aachen Reinsurance company have sent a communication to the press in which they estimate their joint losses at San Francisco at the maximum of $5,000,000. The companies intimate that they will pay only fire and not earthquake losses. They state that both ocmpanies are able to meet their losses."

Ætna, Hartford.—"We have approximately $4,000,000 liability in the city of San Francisco, and if every dollar is lost we can pay it from our surplus, and have a handsome surplus left."

Agricultural, Watertown.—"We have complete records of our liability in the district involved, and our loss may not exceed $500,000, and cannot exceed $750,000."

Allemannia of Pittsburgh.—"This company has sustained no loss in the San Francisco conflagration."

American, Boston.—"In view of the uncertainty of the probable amount that we may be liable for in the San Francisco disaster, we deem it advisable to ask that you cease writing for us until further advised. We are as yet without information, beyond the fact that our losses are serious."

American, Newark.—"Will pay promptly all its San Francisco losses and still have $1,500,000 net surplus left."

American Central, St. Louis.—"All liabilities of the company in San Francisco will be fully met. The business of the company will not be interrupted, and it will continue to do business at the same old stand."

Atlas of London.—"As a general answer to all inquiries I take great pleasure in repeating to you herewith two cable messages received this morning from my home office in London, which explain themselves. The first reads: 'Please subscribe on our behalf $5,000 to California relief fund; advise other branches.' The second reads: 'Convey to all agents our sympathy with them as American citizens in California disasters; Atlas will meet all obligations promptly and honorably by drafts on London.'

"Frank Lock, Manager."

Buffalo German, Buffalo.—"Still remains as one of the strongest American companies, having a net surplus of nearly $2,000,000."

Caledonian.—"In connection with the disaster at San Francisco, the head office at Edinburgh has cabled that the company 'will meet without delay all legal liabilities.'"

Caledonian American.—"While we have not received advices as to the exact amount of this company's liability, yet we are in a position to assure our agents and policyholders that if our entire net commitments in the destroyed district proved total losses, which we know not to be the case, this company would still have an unimpaired capital and surplus in addition."

Calumet.—"This company has provided funds to promptly pay in full all its San Francisco losses, and will continue in business with unimpaired resources."

Camden Fire, Camden, N. J.—"We are safe in fixing the possible claims against us at not exceeding $400,000, which may be considerably reduced on further knowledge of the loss on our individual risks. At the worst, our surplus to policyholders cannot be reduced by the conflagration below $516,340."

Commonwealth, New York.—"Without deducting any release of liability for earthquake damage, and upon the assumption that every one of our policies involved will prove to be a total loss, at the outside the total liability of our company in the aggregate will be under $39,000, in the recent conflagrations in San Francisco and elsewhere in California."

Concordia, Milwaukee.—"All losses will be promptly paid in full without discount and without seeking to evade payments that in ordinary times might be doubtful obligations."

Continental.—"First—We can pay our San Francisco losses out of the margin we left in our security values when we made up our statement on January 1; that is, what we owned January 1 is inventoried in our list of assets for at least $2,000,000 less than we could sell for. Second—Our reserve for unearned premiums on policies in force (reinsurance reserve, as it is sometimes called) is $6,157,738.23, being $160,000 more than the premiums written during the year 1905. No other company can make such a showing, as you will see if you examine the Spectator or Standard Chart. Third—We operate under the New York State Safety Fund Law (explained in circular enclosed), and have, under that law, $600,000 on deposit with the Superintendent of Insurance in Albany for the benefit of policyholders not involved in a conflagration. Fourth—We carry in our statement an item of $300,000 reserve for contingencies. This is surplus. Fifth—Every assets item in our statement is undervalued, and every liability item is overstated. Sixth—As a matter of fact, the Continental could pay its San Francisco losses in full today and still show a net surplus in excess of $8,000,000."

Eagle, New York.—"The San Francisco losses, liberally estimated on the latest information obtainable, will not exceed the amount of its net surplus as of April 1, 1906, which amount the stockholders stand ready to make good, thus putting the company in the same position that it held before the fire."

Fireman's Fund of San Francisco.—"All hands safe and well. Fire now extinguished. Unable to ascertain liabilities until vaults are open, but we pay in full. Fireman's Fund flag is still flying and nailed to the mast."

Franklin Fire.—"For the information of agents and the public generally the Franklin Fire insurance company of Philadelphia announces that it will pay all its losses in San Francisco as soon as adjusted. The 'Old Franklin,' having passed successfully through the St. Louis, Chicago, Boston and Baltimore conflagrations, will continue to furnish reliable indemnity against the fire hazard, as it has done for more than three-quarters of a century."

German-American, New York.—"The cash capital and net surplus of this company now exceed $8,000,000. The total amount the company has at risk in the San Francisco conflagration is

less than $3,000,000. Losses will be paid with our usual promptness."

German, Freeport.—"Three-fourths of liability in San Francisco is outside of burned district. This will leave the company a net surplus of about $1,000,000, after paying its San Francisco losses."

Germania Fire, New York.—"The Germania Fire insurance company, though largely interested in the San Francisco conflagration, will not only be able to pay all its losses in full, but will thereafter still be in possession of a large and ample surplus."

Glens Falls.—"We are in receipt of the following telegram from the Glens Falls insurance company: 'Our San Francisco losses will not exceed $1,000,000, leaving $1,500,000 net surplus.'"

Globe and Rutgers, New York.—"We estimate our aggregate net loss at San Francisco at about $450,000, after paying which our net surplus will exceed $1,000,000."

Granite State.—"This company has no risks on the Pacific Coast, consequently suffers no loss in the San Francisco disaster."

Hanover Fire.—"Our interest in San Francisco is estimated at $700,000, and, of course, claims will be met with the same promptness as were those in the great fires of Portland, 1866; Chicago, 1871; Boston, 1872; Jacksonville, 1901; Paterson, 1902; Waterbury, 1902; Baltimore, 1904."

Hartford Fire.—"From latest advices received we are satisfied that our losses at San Francisco will be well within our surplus. Instructions have been given for the adjustment and prompt payment of all legitimate claims."

Home of New York.—"Our entire liability under every policy in force on property in whole city of San Francisco $3,500,000. Latest advices from our representatives on the ground indicate liability in burned district not over $2,000,000 and loss to company not over $1,500,000. Our net surplus over $9,000,000 and assets over $21,000,000. Will commence adjusting and paying claims as soon as smoke clears away."

Insurance Company of North America, Philadelphia.—"If the entire city of San Francisco should be destroyed it would not exhaust our surplus."

London Assurance Corporation.—"Of course all our obligations in connection with San Francisco catastrophe will be promptly met by funds from head office."

London and Lancashire.—A Liverpool cable dispatch of April 25 says: "At the annual meeting of the London and Lancashire fire insurance company here today the chairman announced that the catastrophe at San Francisco had swept away half the reserve fund, which a week ago stood at $10,788,675. He counseled the shareholders to accept the situation with calmness. A resolution was adopted increasing its capital to $15,000,000 by the creation of 20,000 new shares of $125 each. It is understood that these shares will not be issued immediately."

Michigan Commercial.—"Had no risks and incurred no losses at San Francisco."

Michigan Fire and Marine.—"No definite advices as to San Francisco losses. Michigan will meet all obligations, advise agents."

Milwaukee Mechanics.—"This company makes the announcement to its agents and to the general public that all its San Francisco losses will be promptly paid. The company will continue to carry on its business in the future as it has done for the past fifty-four years."

Nassau Fire.—"The net loss of this company in the San Francisco conflagration will not exceed $150,000."

National Lumber of Buffalo.—"No losses in San Francisco conflagration."

New York Insurance Association.—"We are pleased to inform you that the New York Insurance Association has but four policies on risks located in various parts of the city of San Francisco, with an aggregate liability not in excess of $3,000, and it is doubtful as to whether any or all of these policies are involved in the conflagration now raging. In any event, the New York Insurance Association will not be called upon to pay losses in excess of $3,000, their entire liability in the city. Prompt payment of loss will be made on such of these policies as may be involved. We would be pleased to have you make this announcement in your next issue."

Niagara Fire.—"After paying its losses in full, in every conflagration in this country during the past half century, the Niagara is prepared to similarly discharge its obligations to its patrons at San Francisco and continue business with a good surplus."

North British and Mercantile.—Manager Richards received the following cable dispatch immediately after the news of the conflagration reached London: "Draw on London in payment of recognized claims. Subscribe $5,000 or more for sufferers."

Northern of London.—"Informs its policyholders and agents that, following its invariable practice of seventy years, it will promptly and honorably pay its San Francisco losses in full. And will thereafter, as in the past, rank among the strongest fire insurance companies in the world."

North River.—"The losses of this company at San Francisco will not exceed $325,000."

Norwich Union.—"The Norwich Union will pay all its San Francisco losses in full from the funds in England, which consist of a surplus of $4,494,660.53 and assets of $8,180,696.45. The company's assets in this country will not be disturbed."

Phenix of Brooklyn.—"Latest information from San Francisco places Phenix's loss at the outside at less than $1,500,000. The assets of the company at the present time amount to over $9,000,000 and its net surplus to nearly $3,000,000. All California losses of every kind will be paid in full on demand, and the company will have a net surplus after such payments of more than $1,000,000."

Providence-Washington.—"We estimate our total losses in the San Francisco conflagration at $600,000, which will not consume our net surplus. As previously explained to you, this is a safety fund company, and, consequently, all policyholders are amply protected against future losses, but we can also assure you that this company is to remain permanently in the business. In order to dispel all doubts on this point the board of directors, at a meeting held this day, voted as follows: 'Resolved, That should the losses in the San Francisco conflagration cause any impairment of the capital stock of this company the board of directors will order a call upon the stockholders to make good such impairment.'"

Prussian National.—Manager Thomas W. Letton has received the following dispatch from the home office at Stettin, Germany: "Ready to settle legitimate losses fully and promptly. Company will continue American business as heretofore." Mr. Letton adds: "The conservative policy of the company in San Francisco has saved it from an enormous loss. Although authorized to write $20,000 risks to the block, the average risks amounted to $8,000 per block."

Queen, New York.—"At the outside, we estimate that our losses will not exceed $1,000,000 to $1,500,000, and, whatever the amount may be, it will be promptly paid, and our net surplus will not be seriously impaired in consequence."

Royal.—A Liverpool cable dispatch of April 25 says: "The Royal insurance company learned today by cable from its San Francisco manager that the catastrophe involves the company in a possible gross liability of $6,750,000. The officials, however, say that in view of the large balance on hand and the profitable business transacted during the year 1905 the payment of the liabilities will not necessitate a reduction of the reserve or of the fire funds."

Springfield Fire and Marine.—"The heavy losses to fire insurance companies occasioned by the terrible calamity at San Francisco will naturally cause anxiety among our agents regarding

the condition of the insurance companies represented by them. While we have received no advices from Manager Dornin, of our Pacific department, we have made careful computations from very complete data at this office, and take pleasure in announcing that our reserve of over $3,000,000 and our large capital of $2,000,000 will be intact, and there will also remain a very substantial surplus beyond these items after the payment of all our losses. We congratulate you as well as ourselves on being connected with such a splendid company as the old Springfield Fire and Marine."

Star Fire of Louisville.—"We have nothing at risk in San Francisco, and consequently suffer no loss."

Sun of London.—"No definite advices from San Francisco. The payment of every policy we have there as total would require but one-quarter of our surplus. London cables they will provide entire sum needed."

Traders of Chicago.—"The losses of the Traders insurance company in San Francisco will be promptly adjusted and paid, and the company will continue in business with ample resources."

United Firemen's.—"In view of the conflicting reports relative to losses of insurance companies at San Francisco, we give the following telegram, received this morning from our Pacific Coast manager: 'Total liability whole city $400,000, little less than half involved. Gross loss by earthquake should reduce this 25 per cent., but in any event $200,000 should be outside figure.—H. T. Lamey, manager.' This amount can be paid out of our net surplus, leaving a good working surplus and our capital and entire reinsurance reserve intact."

Washington Fire of Seattle.—"We beg to state to the insurance press that fortunately for us we had only a nominal business in San Francisco, and hence will not be at all materially injured by this catastrophe."

The Mutual Benefit
LIFE INSURANCE CO.
NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

Assets (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1906	$99,127,140
Liabilities	91,548,087
Surplus	7,576,303

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

GERMANIA
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
NEW YORK.
ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE
Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE Co.
LIMITED,
OF LONDON.
OFFICE:
Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

Western Assurance Company
HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, CANADA.
INCORPORATED 1851.
Hon. GEO. A. COX, President.
J. J. KENNY, V. P. and Managing Director.
UNITED STATES STATEMENT, JANUARY, 1906.

Assets	$2,397,608.00
Surplus in United States	782,945.00

The Empire State Surety Co.
EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK
391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*
WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, JR., . *President*
EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

INCORPORATED 1865.
GERMAN INSURANCE CO.
OF FREEPORT, ILL.
The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$6,148,738
Cash Capital	200,000
Liabilities, including reinsurance	3,996,673
NET SURPLUS	1,952,065

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.
ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$2,960,364
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,603,103
Joint Stock Capital	500,000

The Preferred Accident Insurance Co.
OF NEW YORK.
Accident Policies. Health Policies.
Large Benefits, Low Rates, Best Commissions.
January 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,319,514
Surplus	474,634

KIMBALL C. ATWOOD, Sec., 290 Broadway, NEW YORK.

1825. THE 1906.
Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

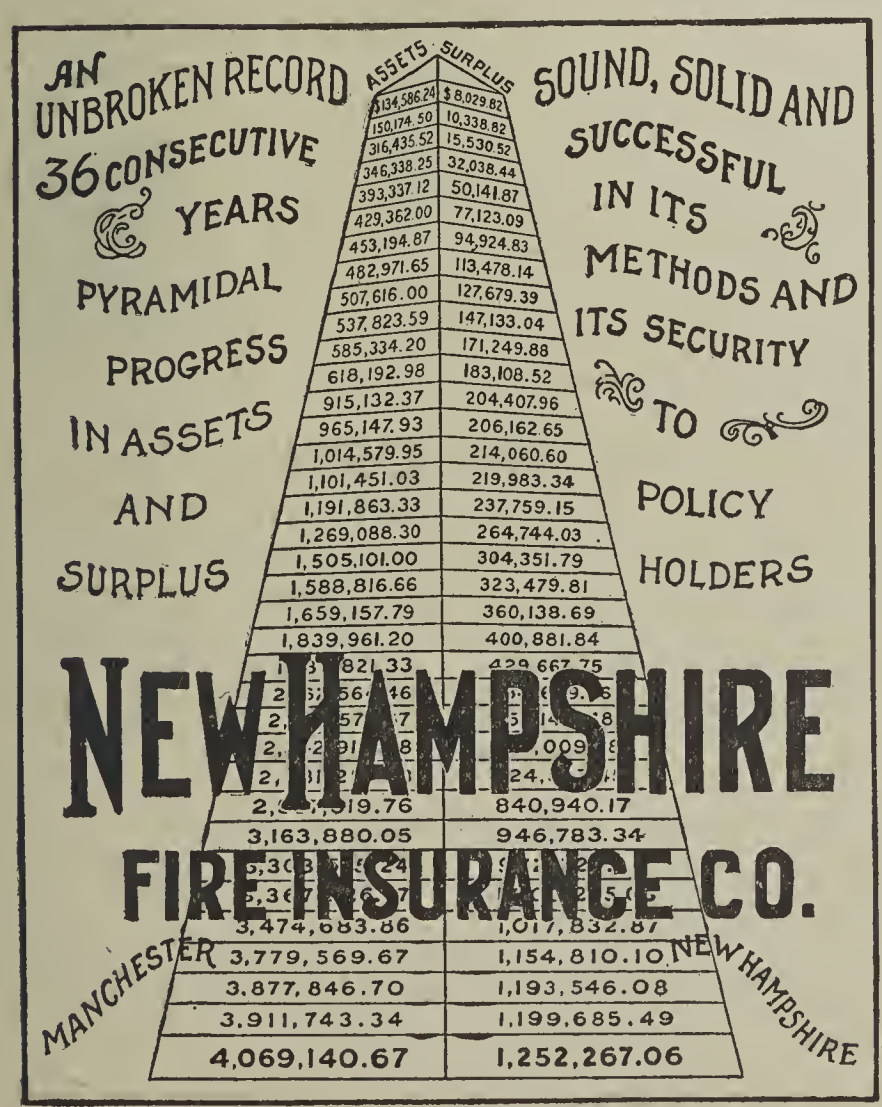
1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. **WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.**



Royal Exchange Assurance

OF LONDON

UNITED STATES BRANCH, 92 WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK.

Uberto C. Crosby, General Manager.
Richard D. Harvey, Assistant General Manager.

Pacific Coast Department, Dickson & Thieme, General Agents, San Francisco, California.

Southwestern Department, Trezevant & Cochran, General Agents, Dallas, Texas.

Southern Department, Edwin G. Seibels, General Agent, Columbia, South Carolina.

Statement of Condition, December 31, 1905.

ASSETS.

United States Government Bonds	$103,000.00
Municipal Bonds	688,396.25
Railroad and other Stocks and Bonds	1,035,510.00
Cash in Bank	114,273.07
Interest Due	15,481.59
Premiums in course of Collection	246,669.08
All others	5,860.30
Total Assets	**$2,209,190.29**

LIABILITIES.

Losses Unpaid	$90,901.00
Re-Insurance Reserve	1,010,422.39
All other Demands	105,362.31
Total Liabilities	**$1,206,685.70**
Net Surplus to Policyholders	**1,002,504.59**

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 12 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Milwaukee.

ASSETS, $151,663,477.29

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1905 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $105.83 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1905:

395 per day in number of Claims Paid.
6,972 per day in number of Policies issued.
$1,502,484 per day in New Insurance Written.
$123,788.29 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.
$77,275.94 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks.	$79,629,477.18
Bonds and Mortgages..	38,062,610.75
Real Estate.....	17,495,905.30
Cash	4,183,912.16
Demand Loans on Collateral	3,747,285.50
Loans to Policyholders.	3,703,554.50
Prem. deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,826,755.63
Accrued Int., Rents, etc.	1,013,976.27
Total	$151,663,477.29

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves.....	$132,705,296.00
All other Liabilities.....	2,776,602.33
Capital and Surplus....	16,181,578.96
Total	$151,663,477.29

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security..... $318,264,084.12

Number of Policies in Force, 8,596,705.

Amount of Outstanding Insurance.....$1,596.509,769.00

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice President.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di.
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di.
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

CONSERVATIVE
PROGRESSIVE
FAITHFUL

¶ Some of the cardinal aims of the *Union Mutual* management are—to be conservative in the choice of investments—to be progressive in the prosecution of the business—to be faithful to the interests of policyholders.

Agents of like inclination cordially welcomed.

Union Mutual Life Ins. Co.

Portland, Maine

FRED E. RICHARDS, *Pres.* ARTHUR L. BATES, *Vice-Pres.*

For Territory address either

EDSON D. SCOFIELD, Superintendent, 180 Broadway, N. Y. City.
THORNTON CHASE, Superintendent, 84 Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

CHARTERED 1866.

Hartford Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

Up to date in business methods—in contracts—in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.

$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.

Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.

INVESTIGATE.

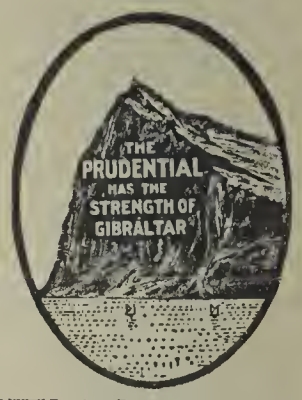
YOUNG MEN MAKE MONEY

There are opportunities to represent a big, sound, up-to-date Life Insurance Company in a profitable manner.

Prudential representatives make money. They have most varied forms of policies and advantageous contracts, with liberal commissions.

The attention of young men, particularly young men starting in business, is especially sought.

Write for full information regarding these unusual opportunities.



THE PRUDENTIAL

INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey.

JOHN F. DRYDEN, President Home Office, Newark, N. J.

National Life Insurance Co.

MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Established in 1850. Operating in 44 States.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, President.
JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President.
JAMES B. ESTEE, 2d Vice-President.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary.
H. M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
A. B. BISBEE, Medical Director.
C. E. MOULTON, Actuary.
F. A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1906, and gained during the past decade:

Assets	$34,519,093.04	Gain, 184 per cent.
Surplus	3,821,752.51	Gain, 165 per cent.
Insurance	145,480,904.00	Gain, 109 per cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.
A. H. GSELLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references

WESTERN MANAGER

Care of WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William St., New York City

Applications will be considered strictly confidential.

Caledonian Ins. Co.,

FOUNDED 1805. *of Scotland.*

"The Oldest Scottish Insurance Office."

UNITED STATES HEAD OFFICE:

Caledonian Building, 50 and 52 Pine St., New York City

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,883,210.00
Liabilities	1,215,950.00
Net Surplus Over All Liabilities	$667,260.00

CHARLES H. POST, U. S. Mgr.

R. C. CHRISTOPHER, Ass't U. S. Mgr.

C. H. Buuker, President. Franklin H. Head, Vice-President.
A. A. Smith, Secretary, H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.

Continental Casualty Company

POLICIES ARE PROTECTED by more than ONE MILLION DOLLARS ASSETS.

Capital Stock, $300,000.00

Accident and Health Insurance

General Offices, **Chicago.**

OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS paid in claims to 175,000 of our POLICYHOLDERS.

GOOD CONTRACTS IN GOOD TERRITORY TO GOOD MEN

Producers, address H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr. 134 Monroe Street, Chicago.

London Assurance Corporation,

CHARTERED A. D. 1720.

Surplus in United States January 1, 1906, $857,681.75.

CHAS. LYMAN CASE, Manager.

61 Pine Street, NEW YORK.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.

No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.

United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$50,019,667.03
Liabilities	41,289,151.01
Gross Surplus	8,730,516.02

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.

Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

QUEEN

Ins. Co. of America.

NEW YORK.

Head Office for the United States:

57 and 59

William Street,

NEW YORK.

A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Manager.

Northern Assurance Company,

OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN DEPARTMENTS,

38 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

GEORGE W. BABB, Jr., Manager. T. A. RALSTON, Sub-Manager.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.

Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.

A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.

A. D. IRVING, Jr., Sec.

SAFETY FUND INSURANCE.

NIAGARA

Fire Insurance Company

OF NEW YORK.

OFFICE:

135 & 137 BROADWAY.

Bankers Life Insurance Company
of the City of New York.
Foster M. Voorhees, President.
Issues the most liberal policies,
Offers the best renewal contracts to Agents of
Standing and Responsibility.
For particulars apply
Home Office, 31 Nassau St., N.Y. City.

How's Your Backbone?
Can You Stand Alone?

Agents who can answer "strong" and "yes" to the above questions, and who want to be advanced more than they want advances, can secure splendid contracts with liberal renewal commission guarantees from the

Security Trust and Life Insurance Co.

BROADWAY and 26th STREET, NEW YORK

Mr. Thomas Bradley, President
Mr. Geo. B. Luper, 2d Vice-President and General Manager

NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
Of the U. S. of A.

Home Office
NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ALBERT M. JOHNSON, President
ROBERT E. SACKETT, Vice-President
ROBERT D. LAY, Secretary
CHAS. B. SHEDD, Treasurer

Admitted assets, $6,092,500.46
Ins. in force - 43,336,600.78
Full paid capital, 1,000,000.00

Policy Contracts Liberal and Up to Date.

Exceptional Inducements offered to wideawake Agents.

For a DEFINITE PROMISE to PAY, well defined, no experiment and taking no chances that technical legal definitions of what constitutes an accident will be used to defeat claims, BUY YOUR INSURANCE in and SELL the policies of

"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.

For particulars address **The Central Accident Ins. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

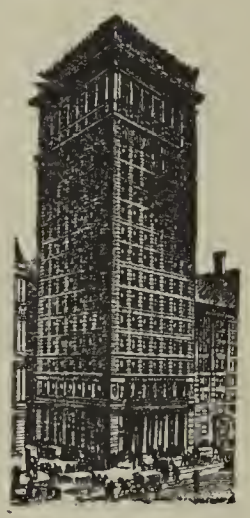
North British & Mercantile
INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

Established 1809.

OFFICE:
76 WILLIAM STREET,
New York City.

Capital, $2,500,000. AGENTS WANTED.

SURETY ON BONDS.



American Surety Co.,
100 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.

Capital, $2,500,000

STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Resources (including Capital, $2,500,000) $6,193,137.53
Liabilities (including Reserve, $856,188.70) 1,347,671.23

HENRY D. LYMAN, *President.* W. S. JOHNSTON, *Vice-President.*

Telephone : Cortlandt 5395.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41
(Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endownment Fund (Deferred Dividends) . $1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund..... 225,000.00
Net Surplus..... 1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force..... 79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.
Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

SUN

Insurance Office of London

FOUNDED 1710.

United States Branch: 54 Pine St., New York.

Western Department: 171 La Salle St., Chicago.
Pacific Department: 215 Sansome St., San Francisco.

Massachusetts Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED 1851

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

ASSETS January 1, 1906, . $40,082,953.35
LIABILITIES, ... 36,716,579.77
SURPLUS, ... 3,366,373.58

Definite Paid-up and Cash Surrender Values Written in Every Policy.

JOHN A. HALL, Pres. HENRY M. PHILLIPS, Vice-Pres
WM. W. MCCLENCH, Sec'd Vice-Pres. WM. H. SARGEANT, Sec

New York Office: 610 Empire Building, 71 Broadway.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencie
WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1906

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance.
The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy.
Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

"The Leading Fire Insurance Company of America."

Incorporated 1819. Charter Perpetual.

Cash Capital..... $4,000,000.00
Cash Assets..... 16,815,296.87
Total Liabilities..... 5,779,285.94
Net Surplus..... 7,036,010.93
Surplus as to Policyholders..... 11,036,010.93
Losses Paid in 87 Years..... 102,847,801.66

WM. B. CLARK, President.
W. H. KING, Secretary.
A. C. ADAMS, HENRY E. REES, A. N. WILLIAMS, Assistant Secretaries.

WESTERN BRANCH, Traction Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.
KEELER & GALLAGHER, General Agents.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH, Omaha, Neb.
WM. H. WYMAN, Gen. Agent. W. P. HARFORD, Ass't Gen. Agent.

PACIFIC BRANCH, San Francisco, Cal.
BOARDMAN & SPENCER, General Agents.

INLAND MARINE DEPARTMENT.

CHICAGO, 145 La Salle St. NEW YORK, 93 and 95 Wiliam St.
BOSTON, 70 Kilby St. PHILADELPHIA, 226 Walnut St.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

HANOVER

Agencies in all the Principal Places in the United States.

Fire Insurance Company

OF NEW YORK.

THE

MUTUAL
Life Insurance Company of Boston, Mass.

Insurance in Force, December 31, 1905, Over $395,000,000

STEPHEN H. RHODES, President.

ROLAND O. LAMB, Vice-Pres.; ARNOLD A. RAND, 2d Vice-Pres.; ROBERT K. EATON, Sup't of Agencies; WALTON L. CROCKER, Secretary; WM. S. SMITH, Actuary; GEORGE L. STIMMEL, General Agent Metropolitan District.

St. Paul Building, New York.

FRANKLIN OF PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia, April 23, 1906.

For the Information of our Agents and the Public Generally The Franklin Fire Insurance Company of Philadelphia announces that It Will Pay All Its Losses in San Francisco as soon as adjusted. The old Franklin having passed successfully through St. Louis, Chicago, Boston and Baltimore conflagrations will continue to furnish reliable indemnity against the fire hazard as it has done for more than three-quarters of a century.

[Signed] J. W. McALLISTER, President.

AMERICAN
Insurance Company
OF NEWARK

Cash Assets, $6,005,358 Cash Capital, $600,000 Net Surplus, $2,430,459

This solid old company, which has survived every conflagration, will pay promptly all its San Francisco losses and still have one and one-half million dollars net surplus left.

Provident Life and Trust Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. **THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY** invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906		$13,015,852
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,389,121	
Capital Stock	3,000,000	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,731	$13,015,852.

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President.
EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer.
BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary.
T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1906. No. 18.

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Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

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THE New York Legislature adjourned on Thursday. Its principal achievement was the enactment of the insurance bills prepared by the Armstrong Committee. It goes into legislative history as a body too cowardly to deliberate calmly on the most important economic proposition of years, in the face of an apparent public demand for precipitate action. Members feared—what did not exist—a popular determination to punish the political party which should be responsible for the failure of "step lively" life insurance legislation. The Assembly passed the bills in a panic. The efforts of a few courageous Senators to stem the torrent, and at least modify some of the worst features of the bills, were rendered futile by the party caucus lash. The bills, good and bad, have become laws, and now for the aftermath of confusion, destruction and litigation. The concentration of so much attention on life insurance doubtless helped to prevent the commission of other irrational insurance legislation. The Brackett-Smith bill to hamstring the fire insurance companies, which went through the Assembly with a rush, was checked in the Senate. The foolish Riordan bill, to annoy the juvenile insurance press, was smothered somewhere. The thanks of the insurance business are due to Senators White, Grady and Malby for their exertions in behalf of reasonable reform, and for the protection of threatened business interests. They will have the satisfaction in the next Legislature of leading the reaction that will vindicate their course in the session just closed.

THE antics of some of the local magistrates of this city while dispensing opinions from the bench are a boon to the humorous writers for the cheap newspapers. One of the worst of these perpetual offenders against judicial dignity and sanity has been denouncing the industrial life insurance companies as "grafters" and "highway robbers" because they do not allow paid up policies for the full amount of the premiums paid in. To an agent striving to explain that the basis of life insurance is that the long lived policyholder must provide for the short lived one, the magistrate "shook his finger" and said: "Why, the Prudential owns New Jersey. It owns the Legislature. Insurance law is made so that your company can grasp all it wants from the people and put it in its own pockets. New Jersey would not investigate insurance. The Legislature did not dare to do it." We quote this language—and there was much more like it—to show how needful it is to have on the minor local bench in New York men of intelligence and common sense, because they come in touch with the poorer classes, who through lack of knowledge of their own look to them to interpret their rights. The magistrate in this case is a blatant ignoramus—if his mind is not disordered—and he is a positive danger to the community in that he excites equally ignorant persons to the commission of misdemeanors and crimes. The wonder is how this man and some of his fellow magistrates have obtained office. It is not for their learning or respect for their judicial positions. As for this particular misfit, the industrial insurance companies should take measures to have him disbarred or mulcted in damages in suits for slander.

THE new Superintendent of Insurance of the State of New York, Otto Kelsey, who has been State Comptroller since 1903, is a close personal and political friend of Governor Higgins, and is said to have had the backing also of ex-Governor Odell, Speaker Wadsworth and Railroad Commissioner Aldridge. These political influences in his favor were too powerful to be overcome by the efforts of the Armstrong and Hughes "reformers" in behalf of a candidate of their own who was—according to our daily contemporaries—to stand no nonsense from the insurance companies. Mr. Kelsey, therefore, is not a reformer in the same sense that those gentlemen claim themselves to be, although he will make the conventional promises of the newly appointed official, to enforce the laws without fear or partiality. His record is that of a politician who has sought and enjoyed many good things since he entered politics as a profession. His reputation at the same time as an office holder, and member of the Legislature, has been creditable. Mr. Kelsey will be an improvement on Mr. Hendricks only so far as he will take warning from the effects of the latter's chronic inactivity as an official. There is no question of the integrity of either, but, judging from his past, the new superintendent will not be less influenced by his political surroundings than his predecessor was. Until the life insurance disturbances of last year began it was obvious that the wishes of powerful politicians were respected in the New York State Insurance Department. The protection long accorded to a moribund company through its connection with a party "boss" is a notorious case in point. The new insurance laws have placed heavier responsibilities on the Insurance Superintendent, and we have no doubt that he will enforce the provisions of the laws vigorously. Aside from that we do not expect much change in the atmosphere of the department.

THE insurance companies will not be justified either by good policy or in law to pay California losses caused strictly by earthquake damage or official dynamiting. Their contracts with their policyholders forbid it, and their directors would be liable to their policyholders for such illegal payments if they were made. The unburned policyholder also has a right to hold that his security shall not be weakened by the parting of any of the com-

pany's funds that can be legally retained. The assumption in some quarters that the companies would be "generous" and "dispute no claims" must have had its origin in the somewhat hysterical mental conditions prevailing while the details of the great disaster were flowing in. But business must be conducted on principles, not on sentiment, if it is to exist and be a force for good. A San Francisco dispatch to the *Journal of Commerce* from an evidently well informed correspondent says that the wholesale or heavier valued districts in the lower part of the city suffered the most severely from the earthquake, while the heaviest damage from official dynamiting occurred in the banking and insurance districts, and this important note is added: "Both these are important factors in determining the losses. From several sources of information it would seem that the earthquake damage involved is fully forty per cent., and that of dynamite twenty per cent. of the entire destruction." In view of the delay which will be occasioned if the companies stand on their legal rights, and policyholders are insistent on immediate settlements, there is much reason in the proposition which is entertained both at San Francisco and in the East, that underwriters shall offer to pay a flat sixty per cent. of their losses in consideration of making settlements within thirty days after adjustments. The proposition would appeal, we believe, to the reasonable attention of a majority of the insured property owners of San Francisco, who have been affected seriously by the fire. The result of its acceptance would be to cut down the liability of most of the companies materially, and save some of them from extinction.

Facts and Opinions.

Announcement that the **Traders insurance company of Chicago** had passed into the hands of a receiver was received in New York when this issue was going to press. The reinsurance of the business of the **New York Fire insurance company** by the New Hampshire Fire was announced at a late hour.

On Wednesday Governor Higgins sent to the Senate the nomination of **Otto Kelsey, of Geneseo**, for **Superintendent of the Insurance Department of the State of New York**, and it was immediately confirmed. Mr. Kelsey has been serving as State Comptroller since the latter part of 1903. He is one of the best known Republican politicians of middle New York. Otto Kelsey was born at Rochester, N. Y., fifty-four years ago. After a common school education he became a printer, and later studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1876. He began the practice of his profession in Geneseo, Livingston County. His entrance into public life was made in 1893, when he was elected to represent his county in the Assembly. By successive re-elections he served nine years in the lower house of the Legislature. He was for a number of years a member of the Ways and Means Committee and the Rules Committee, and before the close of his service as a lawmaker chairman of the Committee on Cities. In 1902 he was defeated for county judge of Livingston County. In January, 1903, he was made deputy comptroller by State Comptroller Miller, whom he succeeded when the latter was appointed to the Supreme Court bench by Governor Odell in November, 1903. At the subsequent State election he was chosen his own successor. By the new appointment his salary will be increased $1,000, the State Comptroller receiving $6,000. The new Insurance Superintendent is a personal friend of Governor Higgins, as he also is of ex-Governor Odell, Speaker Wadsworth and other prominent Republican leaders. He has no special knowledge of insurance, but his executive ability is undoubted. The party organ, the *Tribune*, rather winces at the appointment because Mr. Kelsey bears the reputation more of an adroit politician than of a statesman. But it says consolingly:

> Mr. Kelsey can be trusted to enforce the new insurance laws thoroughly and impartially, and at the same time with conservatism and common sense, free from all sensationalism. There was danger that under the peculiar conditions existing a superintendent might be tempted to play to the galleries and indulge in spectacular investigations to justify his appointment in the eyes of certain critics. No doubt the Governor will now be criticised for appointing a man long connected with the State Government instead of some distinguished person from outside. It is well known, however, that the Governor has sought far and near in private life for the right sort of superintendent, and approached several men of undoubted fitness with a view to their appointment. He has practically been driven to the alternative of choosing some unknown and inexperienced person or a trained administrator of proved honesty, firmness and capacity already in office.

In a personal statement in the *Chronicle*, the editor, Mr. **Miles M. Dawson**, states the task of framing suggestions for amendments to the insurance laws was entrusted to him by the chairman and counsel of the Armstrong Committee about December 15, and the first draft was in their hands about January 10. With the exception of the prohibitions of investments in stocks there was not a limitation in it. All the publicity features, excepting only the making public of lists of policyholders, were there. At the request of the chairman Mr. Dawson reviewed a list of limitations which had been determined upon by the committee, but being opposed to restrictions on principle he protested against them, with the result that two were abandoned and all of them were considerably modified in the direction of greater freedom. At the request of the chairman, and working with him, Mr. Dawson also undertook framing all amendments needed, in his opinion, to complete and correct the life insurance code. This work afterward proved unavailing in large part, when, under advice of counsel, "and very wisely, the committee decided to present no amendments which were not called for by the testimony." Continuing, Mr. Dawson says:

> Though convinced, as was the committee, that the now well known "select and ultimate" method produces total margins of the first year's premiums which afford a much needed criterion for profitable cost of new business, I was not responsible for the idea of limiting expenses; but, instead, procured by means of convincing arguments the modification of the proposal to limit all expenses to the loading, which at the same time will permit all economically conducted companies to comply and will prevent others which are not economicaly managed from making a great feature of "expenses less than loading," when due to big loadings, a large volume of renewal premiums and the like. The form of the limitation upon first year's expenses, the limitation itself being resolved upon, was therefore fully concurred in by me; and I am bound to say that the opposition to an arrangement which would permit of commissions of 50 per cent. or more has since convinced me that mere publicity, the validity of the criterion being itself in dispute, would have accomplished little. In other words, I am a convert as to the necessity, temporary at least, for this form of restriction. Even the object lesson of this legislation is not inclining some companies that are not in New York to be decently economical in this regard.

Mr. Dawson says that the method of elections in mutual companies was not suggested by him. His suggestion was to permit voting in person and by mail but not by proxy. He awaits with much interest the trial in actual practice of the "ingenious, novel and plausible plan" which is now the law, and was the discovery of the chairman, he thinks, with others. Mr. Dawson praises the care, intelligence, probity and assiduity of the committee, and says that he makes these explanations because his connection with the work of the committee has been widely misrepresented.

At a conference of fire underwriters, held in New York on Thursday under the auspices of the Eastern Union, a resolution was adopted to **advance rates on account of the San**

Francisco conflagration. The Eastern Union has adopted for the territory under its particular control a resolution reducing brokerages 5 per cent., and expressing the opinion that this expense should be reduced to at least the same extent in the "excepted cities" in the West. An advance in rates conditioned on the above expense reduction is to be immediately put in operation by the Eastern Union, whereby rates on all business other than that in small and unimportant places will be raised 25 per cent., except what are known as preferred risks, and the resolution provides that fireproof structures and sprinklered risks shall be added to the ordinary line of preferred risks, such as dwellings, churches, schools, etc. It is expected that the Western Union and South Eastern Tariff Association will co-operate in this movement. A joint committee of fifteen representatives of the last two organizations held a meeting at the office of the Phenix insurance company, 68 William street, New York, on Wednesday, and discussed the situation. A meeting of the British companies interested in the San Francisco losses was held in London on Wednesday, and it was unanimously agreed to send a joint dispatch to Oakland to the following effect:

> Under any circumstances the British offices will pay only the losses for which they are legally liable, since to go beyond their contracts would be illegal. They cannot recognize any liability for damage by earthquake where no fire ensued, nor for damages to buildings pulled down or destroyed by order of the San Francisco authorities.

Among other incidents of the week was the announcement of the increase of the capital stock of the Hartford Fire insurance company to $2,000,000 by the issue of 7,500 shares of new stock, par $100, at $500 per share. This will add $3,000,000 to the surplus and $750,000 to the capital, making a total capital of $2,000,000 and a total policyholders' surplus of over $10,000,000 before deducting San Francisco losses, which are now estimated at not exceeding $5,750,000. The Niagara Fire will also increase its stock and surplus by $1,000,000 in cash as soon as the necessary legal steps can be had. The Rochester German will levy an assessment of probably a million dollars on its stockholders. The Girard Fire and Marine has advanced rates in the congested quarters of Philadelphia 25 per cent. Company announcements of San Francisco losses, in addition to those published last week, will be found in another column.

At a meeting of the directors of the **Equitable Life Assurance Society on Monday** new bylaws were adopted, whereby the financial administration of the society was transferred from the executive committee to the finance committee. The duties of the treasurer will become routine in character. The new finance committee, which will consist of the president, vice president (when elected), and four directors, chosen by the board, will be the controlling factor in all the society's financial affairs. A nominating committee of five members was appointed to bring before the board at its next meeting on May 31 nomination for the elective officers and for the four standing committees created by the new bylaws. The elective officers are to be only the president and vice president, although the board also appoints under the same conditions and for the same terms the controller, auditor, treasurer, actuary and secretary. The second and third vice presidents are both to be appointed by the president, subject to the confirmation of the directors, but may be removed by the president "at his discretion." In this provision of the new bylaws absolute power is given to President Morton over Second Vice President Gage E. Tarbell and Third Vice President George T. Wilson so far as removal is concerned, but the bylaws also provide that although the other officers shall be elected for one year, they may be removed or suspended by the board at any time. This includes the president of the society. Mr. Morton said on Monday, with reference to the reports that the resignation of Mr. Tarbell would soon be forthcoming: "The society is not looking for anyone to take the place of either Mr. Tarbell or Mr. Wilson."

The Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court for the Third Department handed down a decision on Wednesday affirming the interlocutory judgment ordered by the Special Term **against James H. Hyde, in the action brought by Mary S. Young** against the Equitable Life Assurance Society and the persons who have been directors thereof during the last three years. Mrs. Young, a resident of Saratoga Springs, brought the action as a policyholder in the Equitable Society and as the owner of one share of stock, to recover for all the sums alleged to be wasted during the three years prior to 1905, it being claimed that such waste occurred, either by the affirmative acts of the directors or by their negligence, and judgment is asked that they be compelled to account for the sums thus wasted and restore them to the treasury of the society. Various defendants, including Hyde, demurred to the complaint as insufficient, claiming that causes of action were improperly united; that Section 56 of the insurance law (since repealed) prevented the action, except by the Attorney General, and on various other grounds. Justice Kellogg, of Plattsburg, overruled the demurrer of Hyde, which was taken as a test, and held the complaint good. The decision just handed down affirms the action of Justice Kellogg in all respects, holding that different causes of action were not improperly united in the complaint; that Section 56 of the insurance law had no application to the case, and that under the allegations the directors are liable. The directors will now be compelled to join issue on the facts, or allow judgment to pass against them by default.

The trustees of the **Mutual Life insurance company** met on Thursday and the following were nominated to fill six of the eight vacancies in the board: Nathaniel Thayer, of Boston; Hugo Baring, of Baring & Co.; Louis Stern, of Stern Brothers; George P. Miller, a lawyer of Milwaukee; Charles S. Brown, a partner in the real estate business of Douglas Robinson, brother-in-law of President Roosevelt, and Leroy Springs, the cotton manufacturer of Lancaster, S. C. These trustees will be elected at a special meeting of the board called for next Monday. At the same time the bylaws, as revised by the bylaws committee, will probably be adopted. There are still two vacancies to be filled on the board. The trustees who have retired are Richard A. and Robert H. McCurdy, Stuyvesant Fish, Robert A. Granniss, Dr. W. R. Gillette, James Speyer, Dudley Olcott and Effingham B. Morris. Apparently the recommendation of the Truesdale committee, that the board be reduced from thirty-six to twenty-five members, will not be adopted. President Peabody said that as the change required an amendment of the charter the board had no power to make it. The statement started by some of the dailies that the Mutual Life will fight in the courts the provision requiring publication of the policyholders lists is denied by President Peabody.

The fire insurance companies have decided to contest the litigation growing out of the **fire at the Peabody Coal Dock Company in 1901.** They claim that their insurance had been cancelled and that no liability existed. Suit was begun by Williams & Peters, selling agents for the Erie Railroad, within a year after the fire, but this has been continued along under five day agreements since then. On Saturday, October 5, 1901, the agents of the assured wrote B. F. Rogers & Co. cancelling a number of policies on anthracite coal on the

docks because of dissatisfaction with the rate, and asking for a check for the unearned premium. In the meantime the insurance had been placed through Johnson & Higgins in the Globe-Rutgers and other companies before the policies were sent in for cancellation. Tuesday, October 8, Mr. Rogers mailed a check for $193.23, return premium on the policies cancelled, but at 10:30 o'clock that night the property burned. The next morning Mr. Rogers delivered the policies to the agents who had issued them for cancellation. No notice of the fire and no claim was made by the assured until January 25, 1902. It is held that the insured is forced to this action by an agreement with the companies to which the insurance was transferred, which hope to be able to hold some of the other companies for a part of the liability.

The home office report of the **London and Lancashire Fire** for 1905 states that in the fire department the net premiums, after deducting reinsurance effected with other companies in reduction of this company's liabilities, amounted to £1,319,776. The net losses incurred, including full estimates for all outstanding, amounted to £562,030. The surplus brought to the credit of the profit and loss account, including the accident department, after providing for all expenses, taxes and charges of every kind, amounted to £331,944. The total credit balance on the entire operations of the company for the year was £393,421. This amount added to the balance of £207,113 brought forward from the previous account, less the interim dividend of £27,300 paid in November last, made an available total of £573,235. The directors proposed to write down the ledger value of the company's buildings by the sum of £20,000; to transfer to the staff pension fund the sum of £10,000, thus increasing the fund from £50,000 to £60,000; to pay a dividend of 10s. per share, free of income tax, making, with the interim dividend already paid, a total distribution for the year of £72,800, or 16s. per share; and to carry forward the remaining balance of £497,735 to the next account.

At a preliminary **meeting of insurance journalists,** held at the Astor House, New York, on April 25, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the recent changes in the statutes of New York governing the election of directors in mutual life insurance companies of that State have imposed new and grave responsibilities on the policyholders of such companies, which must be intelligently met if the men chosen to office are to furnish a management in the true interest of the members.

Resolved, That the publications in this and other countries which have been devoted to the upbuilding and support of insurance are in duty bound by every legitimate means in their power to aid the members of such companies in obtaining whatever information may be needed for their guidance, and to otherwise promote the selection of men best fitted to administer the affairs of such companies.

Resolved, That so far as possible all such publications should co-operate to this end, and that a committee of five be chosen with power to call a national meeting of the representatives of such publications in June next, and to recommend any other action which may promote the best interests of life insurance.

Resolved, That Franklin Webster, of the *Insurance Press;* Charles A. Jenney, of the WEEKLY UNDERWRITER; Charles J. Smith, of the *Vigilant;* James H. McClellan, of the Baltimore *Underwriter,* and Walter S. Nichols, of the *Insurance Monitor* and the *Insurance Law Journal,* be appointed a committee for this purpose.

The **installation of automatic sprinklers in the West** is continuing rapidly, and the demand will be greatly increased by the scare caused by San Francisco. In St. Paul the International Harvester Company is installing a complete plant of the Manufacturers sprinklers in its new building to be used for the manufacture of flax twine. Hibbard-Niagara sprinklers have been installed in the building of the Duluth *News and Tribune.* Standard Manufacturers 1905 one dry pipe sprinkler system has been installed in the storage warehouse of the Boyd Transfer and Storage Company, of Minneapolis. The store of the Lincoln Drug Company, at Lincoln, Neb., is to be equipped with an International sprinkler equipment by June 1. In Omaha automatic sprinklers are being installed for Wright & Wilhelmy, wholesale hardware; the Byrne & Hammer Drug Company, the John Deere Plow Company, and the Louis G. Doup furniture factory.

In Chicago anxiety among the holders of fire insurance policies is quieting noticeably as they find that the leading companies are ready to meet all claims promptly, and are becoming convinced that the losses will not be so large as was originally announced. **Marshall Field & Co.** announce that they will not disturb a single one of their policies, but will wait for the situation to settle and the facts to be ascertained. Arthur Hawxhurst, insurance manager for the firm, said this week:

There is no excuse for a scare about insurance, and policyholders should be reasonable and patient and not transfer their insurance on rumors and inadequate information. The situation is nothing like what it was at the time of the Chicago fire when the majority of the companies involved failed. Most of them were doing business at that time on note capital, but insurance conditions have greatly improved since then, and the companies are doing business on a cash basis and with much stronger resources. We are not disturbing a single policy, and are holding especially to those of the Fireman's Fund. That company paid us $20,000 at the time of the Chicago fire in cash, without discount, assessing its stockholders to do so, and we have not forgotten it.

The **Woodbridge Building,** at 100 William street, is becoming a busy insurance hive. The Maryland Casualty has transferred its New York headquarters from 76 William to the third floor, one half of which it occupies. The frontage is 50 feet on William and 100 on Platt street, making an extra floor space of 2,500 square feet. Each department will be separate. The city department of the New York Underwriters, whose company headquarters for some time have been on the ninth floor at 100 William, has taken an office on the ground floor, having moved from 37 Pine street. Another change is that of the Hartford Steam Boiler and Inspection Company, which has moved into large, roomy quarters on the thirteenth floor from 160 Broadway. The transfer of the offices of the United States branch of the Atlas of London from 49 Wall to 100 William street was chronicled last week.

The announcements by the **British America and Western insurance companies of Toronto** of their condition and their losses at San Francisco appear on the last page of this issue. It will be seen that the net losses of the first will not exceed $275,000, and of the second $400,000. That the losses were not larger is due to the conservative action of the two companies during the past twelve months in reducing business in the burned district; indeed, in the first three months of this year alone the amount written by them there was cut down some $200,000, compared with the same period last year. All the losses will be paid without disturbing the deposits of the companies in the United States. The last annual reports issued to the shareholders showed that the British America had on December 31 last $1,949,834 and the Western $3,242,020 surplus to policyholders.

The **Commission to Revise the Insurance Laws of Iowa** organized on April 28 by the election of James H. Jamison as chairman and C. S. Byrkit, of Des Moines, as secretary. Mr. Byrkit was for many years deputy secretary of state, and is a man well equipped for the work he has been selected to perform. The commission as finally constituted consists of Senators James H. Jamison, of Osceola, and John L.

Bleakly, of Ida Grove, and Representatives N. E. Kendall, of Albia; F. F. Jones, of Villisca, and Tim C. Clary, of New Hampton. Secretary Byrkit has been instructed to collect matter as a basis for the commission to work on, and on call of the chairman in perhaps two weeks from date the commission will get together for continuous sessions till the close of its labors. The sessions will be held in the Lieutenant Governor's rooms at the State House, Des Moines.

A **peculiar combination of insurance claims** was developed in Chicago recently. The agent of an apartment house was walking along the street when he saw a fire in a doctor's office on the first floor. The door was locked, so he jumped through the plate glass window to extinguish the flames. He afterward filed a claim under the fire policy for damage to the building and under the plate glass policy for the breakage of the glass demolished by him. He also asked for indemnity under his accident policy for injuries sustained in getting through the glass, and claimed under the double indemnity clause on the ground that he was injured in a burning building. The casualty company paid the plate glass and accident claims, but turned down the double benefit on the contention that the man was injured going into a burning building.

The fussy insurance laws of Massachusetts are to blame for the temporary deferment, at least, of a plan to add **another fire and marine insurance company** to the very few at present remaining **in Boston.** The president of one of the latter had conceived the idea of organizing a new company with $400,000 capital and an equal amount of surplus, thus starting in with total assets of $800,000, but discovered last Saturday that under the revised laws it is impossible to obtain a concession for a company doing fire and marine insurance business together. It is quite possible that the gentleman in question will cling to his project, and in the meantime the committee that is slated to revise once more the insurance laws of this State might do well to recommend the removal of the hindrance above adverted to.

Western insurance men, says our Chicago correspondent, give **the palm for nerve and courage** in the conflagration emergency to the Calumet Fire of Chicago. The company had just completed its first year the week of the great fire at San Francisco, but was forced by its losses to call upon its stockholders to pay in again the entire amount of their $500,000, divided into $250 shares. Older companies have levied assessments, but they had been drawing dividends for years and had built up a valuable plant, while the Calumet stockholders had never had a cent of return. The board includes a number of Chicago's leading railroad officials and business men, and they subscribed ten times over the amount of stock in the hands of weak holders, who it was figured could not meet the assessment.

Convicted of attempted **arson in the third degree** for being implicated in the plot to burn the buildings of the Lake Shore Brewing Company at Auburn, N. Y., on September 13, 1904, **Herman Bartels,** a wealthy resident of Syracuse, may serve seven and one-half wears in State prison, the maximum for the offense. The trial of the Cayuga County case lasted eighteen days, and made a big sensation in the community, owing to the business and social prominence of the accused. Mr. Bartels owned the Bartels Brewing Company and was interested in other breweries. He purchased the Lake Shore malt house for $16,500 and insured it for $70,000. He claimed that he bought the building very cheap. An appeal to the Court of Appeals at Albany for a change of venue previous to the trial was denied.

The **Insurance Department of Massachusetts** has sent a circular to all the fire companies doing business in that State calling attention to the fact that its annual fire report will soon be published, and asking the co-operation of the companies in making the statement of losses by the San Francisco disaster as complete as possible by May 25. It also calls for details of any special action to make good company's losses, either by assessment of stockholders or otherwise, or, in case of United States branches, by remittance from home office. The blank accompanying the request calls for a statement of the gross amount of loss, the amounts of deduction for reinsurance and salvage, and the net amount of loss, all to be signed by the president and secretary.

The Home of New York furnishes the following statement of the **boundaries of the burned district** of San Francisco:

Burned area beginning intersection Lombard and Bay streets south to Mission; west to Stuart, south to Howard, west to Main, south to Harrison, west to Beale, south to Bryant, west to First, south to Brannan, west to Second, south to Townsend, west to Eighth, north to Bryant, west to Eleventh, north to Fourteenth and Harrison; west on Fourteenth to Folsom, south to Fifteenth street, west to Howard, south to Eighteenth, west to Mission, south to Twentieth, west to Dolores, north to Market, east to Gough, north to Fell, west to Octavia, north to Golden Gate, east to Van Ness, north to Sutter, west to Franklin, north to Clay, east to Van Ness, north to Greenwich, east to Hide, north to Chestnut, east to Jones, north to North Point, east to Bay; all buildings across street from above district partially damaged.

The salvage account on the **fire in the Santa Fe elevator** last September has just been closed. The grain was handled for account of the companies by Harris, Scotten & Co., acting for the Western Adjustment Company. The net proceeds from the salvage are $42,143. At the time of the loss the best offer obtainable was $35,000. Within a week after the fire, while the debris was being removed, a second fire broke out, which is estimated to have done $10,000 additional damage to the grain, or otherwise the insurance would have been even better. The salvage amounts to 10 per cent. on value and a 7 per cent. return on insurance is being paid.

A number of widely known **Bostonians, policyholders in the Mutual Life of New York,** have formed a committee, the object of which is to take a hand in the forthcoming elections of trustees and officials of the Mutual and to see that Boston is properly represented among the former. The committee comprises Edwin Hale Abbott, formerly president of the Wisconsin Central Railroad; Moses Williams, president of the State Street Trust Company; Solomon Lincoln, for many years president of the board of overseers of Harvard College, and Col. William A. Gaston, a well known lawyer and Democratic politician.

In the window of the city department office of the **National Surety Company,** at 60 Liberty street, there was displayed this week a novel sign, reading "Surety Bonds and Burglary Insurance." How the thing worked was what bothered the crowd that blocked the sidewalk. The words were formed by a hollow glass tube made to look like written characters. Through this tube were constantly forced tiny bubbles of air and water, which produced a wavy effect resembling the "flag floating in air" delusion seen frequently on electric signs. The crowd had to stop, read and "rubber" whether it would or no.

New York May removals to date are as follows: H. Mosenthal & Son, from 46 Cedar to 95 William; Francis Peck,

from 35 Nassau to 100 William; Newman & MacBain, Fire Underwriters to 54 Maiden lane; Crosthwaite & Cannon, from 64 William to 95 William; Lansing & Thompson, from 68 William to 76 William; J. A. Parker, Union Central Life, from 60 Wall to 25 Broad; McKay, Cortis & Co., from 54 Maiden lane to 100 William; home office of the New York Fire, from 72 Wall to the fourth floor of 95 William. About May 15 the Title Guarantee and Trust Company will remove from 146 Broadway to its fine new building at 176 Broadway.

It is practically settled that the **National Fire insurance company** of Hartford will soon make a change in the management of its New England territory. Col. W. A. R. Boothby, of Boston, will remove to Waterville, Me., where he has large interests in the local agency of L. T. Boothby & Son, and will act as State agent of the National for Maine. It is understood that Mr. Lewis, who has for some time past been associated with the New England field work of this National, will be given charge of the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

The **Life Underwriters' Association of Montreal** has been admitted to membership in the National Association of Life Underwriters. E. Homer Vipod is president and Thomas J. Parkes is secretary. Mr. Parkes will represent his association at the meeting of the national executive committee in New York on May 22. The **Life Underwriters' Association of Savannah, Ga.,** which was organized since the convention last September, will be represented on the executive committee of the National Association by Benjamin J. Apple, secretary and treasurer.

Comments of *Insurance* on the **legislation at Albany:**

The big bill is so big that it would fill at least twelve pages of this journal, if set in the type ordinarily used for reprint matter. It is big with folly, with ignorance, with unknown possibilities for mischief, with latter day Blue-lawism which, because of its utter impossibility, will not be enforced, with stuff of questionable validity which is yet to be carefully examined. * * There is not an expert living who could tell now, after a week's hard study, just what this bill amending the insurance law generally contains within its belly stuffed with explosives, or where and how seriously it will hit, or how it will work, except this: that when it has explained itself by damaging results it will need to be and will be pruned of its viciousness, later on.

The **Fire Insurance Club of Chicago** has announced the following program of speakers and subjects for the forthcoming club year, beginning with September 26:

Will M. Gadsden, "Hotel and Lodging Houses, Barns and Stables"; C. R. Boynton, "Wood Workers"; M. G. Kabateck, "Metal and Ore Products"; D. R. Frary, "Storage Warehouses"; E. P. Arnold, "Grinding and Milling"; E. W. Leeper, "Theatres"; E. W. Case, "Oil Products"; M. S. Davidson, "Animal Industries"; J. M. Hallman, "Sprinkler"; W. H. Dennison, "Printing and Kindred Industries"; R. S. Tucker, "Textile Industries"; W. C. Hayes, "Street Railway Properties."

The **Western manager of the Atlas,** J. M. Neuburger, has appealed from the ruling of the executive committee of the Chicago Board of Underwriters, on the contention that they cannot control rates of commission which may be paid between two full department offices in the interchange of excess lines, which are generally located remote from Chicago. Mr. Neuburger holds that this should not include the business of managers or general agents of departments consisting of one or more States.

At its meeting last Tuesday the **Boston Board of Fire Underwriters** adopted an order prohibiting the cancellation of policies, unless at short rates and with the consent of the executive committee, when such cancellation is made for the purpose of rewriting. Similar action had been taken by the New England Insurance Exchange the Saturday before, and, as may be easily inferred, the object is to forestall attempts to avoid the expected advance in rates.

The first of the financial statements to be issued by fire insurance companies since the San Francisco conflagration is that of the **Westchester Fire insurance company,** showing its condition as of April 30, 1906. The Westchester, after reserving $600,000 specially for the San Francisco losses, has a net surplus of $1,062,849.62 and total assets of $4,014,630.29. The company's San Francisco losses will be promptly settled and paid in gold in San Francisco.

The **negotiations between the board and non-board agents at St. Paul,** which promised to bring together the two organizations, have been broken off as a result of the San Francisco losses. The board companies feel that their losses there were so heavy that they cannot afford to make any further sacrifices to the non-board element. Some rate cutting is threatened, but it is not believed that the companies will countenance this now.

Detectives of the New York office of the **United States Guarantee Company** have arrested in New York city Joseph O. Carrier, charged with embezzling $500 at the Montreal office of the National Cash Register Company, for which he was a collector. He was bonded by the Guarantee Company, which has been searching for him since February, only to find that the day before he was caught he had taken $15 from his new employer's safe.

A misunderstanding having arisen among companies as to whether **the three-quarters value clause** applies in Wisconsin, the governing committee of the Western Union rules that it applies on unrated country stores, and that 25 cents may be deducted from the desk tariff for its use where the reduction in rate is granted for attachment of the clause and information has been secured that there is no violation of the State law.

An **investigation of the Union Central Life insurance company** of Cincinnati has been undertaken by the Wisconsin legislative committee, which has been devoting its attention recently to the Northwestern Mutual Life of its own State. Professor Glover, of the University of Michigan, who is one of the actuarial advisers of the committee, was to arrive in Cincinnati this week for the purpose of examining the company's books.

The **profit insurance on the Peavey elevator at Duluth,** which is the heaviest loss of the year so far in the Northwest, has just been settled as total. The Citizens of Missouri had $3,000, the Northern of New York $2,000, the Norwich Union $2,000 and the Union of England $3,400. The working part of the elevator being completely destroyed no profits could be realized within the period covered.

Saturday being **moving day in Chicago** the Western department of the German American moved from the Rialto to the thirteenth floor of the American Trust Building, and the Home of New York from its own building on La Salle street to the rear of the fourth floor of the National Life Building. The Pennsylvania Fire and the Governing Committee are also to remove to the American Trust Building.

A **Tennessee Field Club** has been organized by a dozen fire underwriters at Nashville, Tenn., and the following officers elected: H. B. Hart, president; Charles R. Frizzel, Nashville,

vice president, and Will A. Stone, Memphis, secretary. The executive committee is composed of Verner M. Kline, Nashville; C. M. Benjamin, Atlanta; David Caldwell and A. F. Bolling, Louisville; W. A. Drennan, New Orleans.

Containing much information of interest to underwriters, the thirty-fourth annual report of the **Insurance Clerks' Mutual Benefit Association** is out. Mr. Willard H. Hodgson managed the publication, which contains the names of the officers, bylaws and members of the organization, as well as an underwriters' directory of manufacturers of fire extinguishing apparatus and other data.

A course of **special insurance lectures** at the University of Minnesota is being arranged for by the Minneapolis Underwriters' Association. There will be twelve of these, and a prize of $50 has been offered by the underwriters to the student who attends the course and writes the best essay on an insurance topic. The lectures will be delivered free by the underwriters.

In the British House of Lords on Tuesday the Earl of Granard, in behalf of the Board of Trade, announced the appointment of a select committee to look after the interests of the **British policyholders in American life insurance companies.** Lords Balfour of Burleigh, Stanley of Alderley, St. Oswald, Brimthorpe and Burghclere were named as members.

The appointment of Col. Mott Ayres, of Fulton, the present deputy insurance commissioner of **Kentucky,** as **State fire marshal** under the law passed at the recent session of the Legislature, has been made by Insurance Commissioner Prewitt. The law becomes operative June 15 next, and the place carries with it an annual salary of $2,400 and expenses.

A **patented article, known as "Emergine,"** is being manufactured at Cleveland for the use of automobilists. Manager Patton, of the Cleveland inspection bureau, advises agents that it is nothing more than gasoline or naphtha, and is very hazardous, and the companies will refuse to grant permission to handle the stuff without an increase of premium.

The **Chicago Board of Underwriters** has fixed the reward to be paid for information leading to the conviction of brokers and suburban agents for violation of the rules at not more than $250. The board has decided that the rule forbidding pro rata cancellations on account of the conflagration scare shall not apply to dwellings or household goods.

More satisfactory data for the companies **on sprinklered business** are desired and will be discussed at the annual meeting of the National Fire Protection Association in Chicago in May. The adoption of a concise and uniform blank for the dissemination of information furnished by the various inspection bureaus is urged.

The **fire underwriters of New Brunswick, N. J.,** have organized by electing the following officers: President, William F. Harkins; vice president, J. B. Wright; treasurer, John Watson; secretary, C. B. Crooks, of Elizabeth, who is the stamp clerk; executive committee, J. B. Kirkpatrick, Neilson T. Parker and John Watson.

The new **State Fire insurance company** has been chartered at South McAlester, Ind. Ter., to operate in the Indian Territory, with a $500,000 capital, of which it is alleged that $100,000 is paid in. Oklahoma City men are the backers. The officers are: F. C. French, president; John F. Hicks, vice president, and H. F. George, secretary-treasurer.

Regarding the **ownership of the stock of the Fireman's Fund of San Francisco,** says the *Journal of Commerce,* it had been supposed that it was held largely in San Francisco, and that its owners would be hard hit individually; in fact, 40 per cent. of the stock is owned east of the Rockies and 25 per cent. in Hartford.

The records of the recently organized **Cotton Insurance Association,** the organization of companies for handling cotton business, show that it suffered a loss ratio of 86 per cent. in its first six months, with a possibility of reduction through litigation to 80 per cent. The premium income of the association was $200,000.

To the indictment by the New York grand jury of William A. Brewer, Jr., former president of the **Washington Life insurance company,** for forgery and perjury, announced in our issue of last week, Mr. Brewer on Monday entered the plea of not guilty. The Recorder promised a speedy trial..

To stimulate business Edwin D. Boldman, Eastern general manager of the **Pacific Mutual Life,** with headquarters at 68 William street, New York city, has inaugurated a six weeks' contest for his agents. Cash prizes are offered for new business in the personal accident and life departments.

Two of the **leading agency firms of Providence, R. I.,** namely, Beach & Sweet and the Henry W. Cooke Company, have consolidated under the name of the Beach & Sweet Company, Mr. Charles H. Beach being president and Joseph W. Lewis secretary of the corporation.

A charter has been granted at Little Rock, Ark., to the **Southern Western Fire insurance company,** a mutual concern, which began with $1,000,000 risks in force and the following incorporators: Ex-Governor Dan W. Jones, J. W. Holland, M. H. Dodd.

A block by block **inspection of Springfield, Ohio,** was made by twenty special agents April 19, with the cordial assistance of the mayor and city officials. They promised to correct all defects reported by the field men.

The new rules adopted by the recent session of the **Western Union** regulating the rental value of insurance and making them the same as for rent insurance are being adopted by the various local boards in the field.

The **Illinois Bankers** insurance company of Mt. Vernon, Ill., is being promoted by J. Oscar Beck, late special agent of the Hartford Fire in southern Illinois.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

British-American of New York: H. B. Alden, Boston, Mass.

Spring Garden of Philadelphia: Edward Brown & Sons, Pacific Coast managers, vice Dickson & Thiem; Thomas W. Duckels, special agent for Colorado and Wyoming, with headquarters at Denver.

Svea: Thomas W. Duckels, special agent for Colorado and Wyoming, succeeding W. H. Gibbons.

Mrs. Benjamin F. Bates, wife of Superintendent Bates, of the Brooklyn No. 1 District, Prudential insurance company, died at her residence in Brooklyn, N. Y., on April 26, after a three months' illness. Mrs. Bates was a woman of English birth, and well known among pioneer industrial insurance workers in England and America. She lived in

this country about twenty-five years, and had many friends among superintendents and workers in the life insurance business.

Lieut. Peter Petrovitch Schmidt, of the Russian navy, who led the famous mutiny on the battleship Kniaz Potemkine, of the Black Sea fleet last summer and was subsequently executed, was insured in the Equitable Life of New York for $1,000. Under a strict interpretation of the Russian law, which made the mutineer an outcast, with no standing in the courts, the Equitable could have refused to pay the policy, but it will pay the widow in full.

Manager Frank Lock, of the Atlas of London, made an address to the pupils of the Plainfield, N. J., High School, April 27, on "Fire Insurance," and spoke particularly of the responsibility of the fire insurance companies in connection with the San Francisco disaster. Miss Mary Lock, his daughter, is a member of the faculty of the high school.

Mr. John J. McDonald, Western manager of the Connecticut Fire, who is touring the Orient, first heard of the San Francisco conflagration at Hong Kong. He cabled at once, announcing his intention to return, but was advised to remain, as the trouble would be over before he could reach this country.

Mr. L. S. MacEnaney, who resigned recently as State agent of the Agricultural of Watertown, to enter the local agency field in Chicago, has been asked by the company to do some special work for it in the field in the emergency caused by the conflagration, and is now out for it.

Mr. Ten Broeck M. Terhune has resigned as secretary and treasurer of the New York Casualty Company, to manage the personal accident, health and burglary insurance departments for the metropolitan district of the Maryland Casualty Company.

Col. W. L. Barnum, for thirty years connected with the Millers' National Fire of Chicago, has resigned as secretary and manager, retiring at the age of seventy. Mr. W. I. Neely, treasurer and assistant secretary, is expected to succeed him.

Mr. Asaph P. Childs, a Bennington, Vt., agent of the New York Life, died April 24 at St. Albans of heart disease, aged sixty-five years. In twenty-three years he wrote personally nearly eight millions of business.

Insurance Commissioner David Martin, of Pennsylvania, has been reappointed for a full term by Governor Pennypacker. His first appointment was to fill out the unexpired term of Israel W. Dunham, resigned.

State Senator Riordan, author of the bill to strangle baby insurance papers, is going to swap places with "Big Tim" Sullivan and go to Congress in order to oblige Tim, who prefers the State Senate.

Capt. John Stephen Sewell, of the War Department, has been sent to San Francisco by the United States Government to investigate the effect of fire and earthquake on modern buildings.

Messrs. Franklin S. Phelps & Co., insurance agents of Boston, have admitted Chas. E. Dennison, a long time employee of theirs, and James S. Smyth, an ex-newspaper man, to partnership.

Mr. Samuel Appleton, of Boston, United States manager of the Employers' Liability Corporation, sails next Tuesday on the Carmania for a three months' vacation in Europe.

Mr. L. P. Norton, senior member of the insurance firm of L. P. & L. S. Norton, died April 26 at Bennington, Vt., his home, after a six days' illness from pneumonia.

Mr. A. G. Dent, sub-manager of the Liverpool and London and Globe, has arrived from London on the Cedric.

Secretary W. N. Whymper, of the Royal Exchange, of London, has sailed for New York.

Obituary.

Death of Samuel P. Blagden.

Mr. Samuel P. Blagden, for many years one of the most prominent of American fire underwriters, died at his home in the city of New York on Tuesday. He had been ill for some weeks from cirrhosis of the liver, complicated with heart disease, and toward the end was unconscious, passing away peacefully. The funeral took place at Grace Church on Thursday afternoon. A special meeting of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, of which Mr. Blagden was formerly president, was held on Thursday morning, and a committee was appointed to draft a memorial to be sent to the members of the board. At the meeting Messrs. Marshall S. Driggs, Benoni Lockwood and Frank Lock made feeling addresses.

Mr. Blagden was a native of Boston, Mass., where he was born October 30, 1840. He was the son of the Rev. Dr. Blagden, an eminent divine, who was pastor of the "Old South" Church nearly forty years, and the nephew of Wendell Phillips, of whom he was a favorite. He received a collegiate education at Williams, from which he was graduated in 1862. After an apprenticeship in mercantile business in Boston he removed to New York, and in 1866 became a member of the general agency firm of Ezra White & Co. This led to his appointment as assistant United States manager of the North British and Mercantile insurance company, of which Mr. White was manager, and he succeeded that gentleman on his retirement from the position in 1887. Mr. Blagden held this important charge until his resignation in 1894.

He went into the general agency and brokerage business in New York in the latter year, forming a partnership with Mr. Stillman. The business of the firm became one of the largest in New York, and was further augmented by the union with that of John A. Kelly in 1904 under the name of Blagden, Kelly & Co., which afterward became Blagden, Kelly & Fuller. Mr. Blagden's activities and leadership in fire insurance were shown in his election to the secretaryship of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, which he held from 1873 to 1875, and to the presidency of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters in 1890 and 1891. In March, 1901, he was chosen the first president of the Insurance Society of New York, and served two years. At the time of his death he was one of the executive committee of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange. He was also a member of numerous social organizations, among them the Union, Knickerbocker, Players', Racquet and Seawanhaka-Corinthian Yacht clubs, the New England Society, the Downtown Association and the Williams College Alumni Association. Mr. Blagden left a wife, who was Miss Julia G. Clarke; five sons, Samuel P., Jr., Crawford, Warden P., Arthur C. and F. Meredith Blagden, and one daughter, Miss Margaret W. Blagden. A very large circle of attached friends sincerely regret his death.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., May 1.—The House has concurred with the Senate in adopting the order that the Insurance Committee act as a recess committee to revise and amend the insurance laws, but amended to include the president and two others of the Senate and the speaker and three others of the House.

BOSTON, Mass., May 2.—The Senate refuses to concur with the House amendments to the order to make the Insurance Committee a recess committee, and it goes back to the House for it to insist or to recede.

There was in the House calendar today, without action, the adverse report of the Judiciary Committee on the petition of John E. Reagan and others (with House Bill No. 610) for a law to require common carriers to provide protection to patrons by insurance or otherwise.

BOSTON, Mass., May 3.—The House has referred to the next Legislature the bill to put all foreign corporations doing business in the State under the same laws as the domestic corporations doing a similar business.

The Senate ordered to a third reading the bill to authorize boiler insurance companies to insure against the explosion of flywheels, substituting a new bill, Senate 364.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 27.—The Governor signed today the two remaining Armstrong insurance bills. One of these was the perjury bill, which was approved with the following memorandum attached:

The bill establishes a rule of evidence whereby, in perjury cases, the falsity of the sworn statement set forth in the indict-

ment is presumptively established by proof of contradictory statements by the defendant under oath. This presumption is a mere rule of inference which takes the place of evidence when no contradictory evidence is offered; a mere shifting to the defendant of the burden of producing evidence on one feature of the case.

Of two contradictory material statements, one must be false. This bill helps out the indictment and weakens the silent defense that the false statement may be the one made elsewhere, and not the one charged in the indictment, but the State must still establish beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant acted with criminal intent and wilfully and knowingly testified falsely in a material matter, or stated under oath material matter to be true which he knew to be false, or which he did not know to be true. A conviction would not be possible merely upon proof that the defendant had made prior contradictory statements under oath.

The other insurance bill approved was the general bill, and it was accompanied by a memorandum in the following words:

This bill is the last of the bills introduced by the Armstrong Committee, as the result of its investigation, for the purpose of remedying existing evils and of establishing more securely the business of life insurance in this State. That in the judgment of the committee so much remedial legislation and such comprehensive and far reaching amendments are necessary, indicates with sufficient clearness the inadequacy of the old insurance law.

It is impossible within the limits of this memorandum to outline fully what is accomplished by this comprehensive measure.

It deals with the organization of life insurance companies; the rights of policyholders in the election of directors, the retirement of stock; investments, including syndicate participations; limitation of new business, limitation of expenses, valuation of policies, rebates, surrender values, ascertainment and distribution of surplus, right of policyholders to resort to the courts, forms of policy, State supervision and penalties.

During the extraordinary session of last July I recommended to the consideration of the Legislature the question of the appointment of a joint committee to investigate the operations of life insurance companies doing business in the State, for the purpose of preparing and reporting "such proposed legislation as may be adequate and proper to restore public confidence and to compel life insurance companies to conduct a safe, honest and open business for the benefit of their policyholders." No other legislative investigating committee in the history of the State has been invested with greater responsibilities, has performed its duties with more intelligence and energy, has commanded in a greater degree the public confidence, or has succeeded in placing upon the statute books more valuable remedial legislation. No blot of failure or weakness mars its completed work. The legislative session of 1906 will go down in history as the year of great insurance reforms.

The general insurance bill amends the insurance law of 1892 in forty-six sections. A number of the amendments are inserted only to make the sections they amend conform with the more important amendments in other sections. The principal changes in the insurance law treat of the following subjects, the amended sections being named:

Section 20. The acquirement of real property by domestic life insurance corporations.

Section 36. Officers and directors not to be interested in syndicate transactions for such corporations.

Section 39. Examinations of insurance companies.

Section 40. Examinations at the request of policyholders.

Section 52. Reorganization of existing corporations.

Section 58. Policy to contain entire contract; statements of insured to be representations, not warranties.

Section 60. Estimates and misrepresentations prohibited. Any violation of this provision shall constitute a misdemeanor.

Sections 70 and 71. Organization of mutual life insurance companies.

Section 83. Distribution of surplus to policyholders.

Section 84. Valuation of policies.

Section 87. Contingency reserve.

Section 88. Surrender value of lapsed or forfeited policies.

Section 89. Rebating of premiums prohibited; policies of officers, trustees and salaried employees included.

Section 92. No forfeiture of policy without notice. This section is amended so as to make the limit within which action may be maintained to recover under a forfeited policy two years instead of one year.

Section 94. Election of directors. This is the section providing for the publication of lists of policyholders by domestic mutual life insurance companies and the manner of proxy voting for their trustees or directors. The section as amended before final passage by the Senate and concurrence by the Assembly made the following change from the original bill:

All said lists shall be subject to inspection and copy at any time during business hours by any policyholder in said corporation, or by his authorized representative, during five months prior to such election; provided, however, that after such election, or, if no candidate shall have been nominated others than those nominated by the board of directors, then after the time for such independent nominations shall have expired, such lists may be withdrawn by the corporation filing and maintaining the same as aforesaid; and thereafter, prior to the next election, new lists shall be filed and maintained, subject to inspection and copy, as above provided, which may be similarly withdrawn.

Section 95. Conversion of a stock life insurance corporation into a mutual corporation.

Section 96. Limitation of new business.

Section 97. Limitation of expenses. In the final amendment of this section the clause reading, "All bonuses, prizes, rewards, salaries or commissions of any sort based upon the amount of any new or renewed business, or the aggregate of policies written or paid for, other than as aforesaid, are prohibited," was changed so as to read, "All bonuses, prizes, rewards, and all increased or additional commissions or compensation of any sort, based upon the volume of any new or renewed business or the aggregate of policies written or paid for, are prohibited."

Section 98. No domestic life insurance company shall pay any salary, compensation or emolument of more than $5,000 per annum to any person, unless such payment shall be first authorized by the board of directors.

Section 99. Regulation of vouchers for disbursements of $100 or more.

Section 100. Investments of domestic life insurance corporations.

Section 101. Standard forms of policies.

Section 102. Companies issuing participating policies not to do a non-participating business.

Section 103. Annual reports of life insurance corporations. The eleventh clause of this section was amended on final passage so as to read as follows:

A foreign corporation, issuing both participating and non-participating policies, shall make a separate statement of profits and losses, margins and expenses, as aforesaid, with reference to each of said kinds of business, and also showing the manner in which any general outlays of the company have been apportioned to each of such kinds of business.

Section 200. Prohibiting the organization of domestic assessment associations, other than fraternal corporations, after June 1, 1906.

Section 204. Prohibiting the admission to the State of assessment associations, except fraternal corporations, after June 1, 1906.

Section 205. Regulating reserve or emergency funds of assessment associations.

ALBANY, N. Y., May 2.—Senator Armstrong introduced a bill today postponing until December 18 the election of directors in the four mutual life insurance companies, the bill being accompanied by an emergency message from the Governor. The Senator in introducing the bill said that representations had been made to Governor Higgins on behalf of the companies that it would be impossible for them to have the lists of policyholders ready for filing on June 15, as now required, and that it was thought best to amend the

law so as to allow them a month and three days of additional time. The bill was rushed through both houses. The effect will be to defer to July 18 the time of filing the lists. As amended the law also reads as follows:

No votes shall be cast at any such election under any proxy executed prior to the 18th day of October, 1906, and all proxies executed heretofore or prior to said date authorizing any vote to be cast at any election of directors of any domestic mutual life insurance corporation shall be void.

ALBANY, N. Y., May 3.—The Legislature has adjourned sine die. The anti-compact bill died in the Senate Committee on Insurance.

United States Congress.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 27.—The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections by unanimous vote today authorized Senator Foraker to report favorably the Tillman bill to prohibit insurance and other corporations from contributing to campaign funds. The bill was amended by a sub-committee consisting of Senators Foraker, Knox and Bailey, and was made to apply to corporations of all kinds and to all elections for Presidential and Vice Presidential electors, for legislatures where United States senators are to be chosen, and for representatives in Congress. It makes offending corporations subject to a fine of $5,000, and an employee of corporations subject to a fine of $1,000. The measure does not apply to persons receiving such contributions.

It is believed by members of the sub-committee that this measure will furnish the model for State legislation prohibiting State corporations from contributing to election expenses.

Miscellany.

How the Higgins-Armstrong Black Horse Cavalry Defeated the White Amendment at Albany.

(Albany Correspondence of the New York Evening Mail.)

ALBANY, N. Y., April 24.—Just what happened in Albany last week when for a day the principal insurance bill then pending was amended in the Senate, and on the following day that action was reversed, has been a subject of careful inquiry.

The dispatches at the time explained the defeat of Senator Armstrong by reference to a bold and unscrupulous "lobby." "The black horse cavalry" was said to be in evidence. A great hue and cry was raised. The Governor intervened and reversed the action, through what must be admitted to have been a rather dubious exercise of executive power, on the theory that that was the only way to defeat improper influences and objectionable methods.

As a matter of fact, there was no "lobby," as that term is understood, in Albany at the time at all. There was no "black horse cavalry" and no bold charge made by it; there was no cunning plan, and no bold attempt to trap the Senate. These things all existed only in the minds of certain correspondents, who have labored so long with the muck rake that they have lost the power to recognize normal conditions when they see them.

The so called "White amendment" carried because its justice recommended it. After Senator White had presented his claims convincingly; after Senators Grady and Hill had supported it ably, acting on the theory that debate is still proper and is for information, and that at the close of debate a deliberative body should record its honest judgment, the Senate voted as it believed, and voted to strike out a provision which is denounced by all practical life insurance men as iniquitous, and to substitute for it a provision which gave the policyholders the freest right of communication without damaging irreparably our New York companies and risking the peril of their control by Lawson and certain very loud mouthed and vigorous New York friends of his who are these days very much in evidence.

But whether the White amendment was good or bad in itself is one side of the point. The fact is that the amendment carried—carried after free and fair debate. There was no influence at work except the influence of reason. The attempt to amend the bill was made along lines for which the press has been crying loudly for the last eight months. It consisted of nothing but an open presentation by influential men, a debate and a vote. There was no previous canvass of the Senate, and the insurance men who were in Albany to urge the amendment were quite as much surprised at its success as those who opposed it. Yet the muck rakers could see in the incident only evidence of corruption.

Following the adoption of Senator White's amendment, methods were employed on behalf of the so called reform bill which may fairly represent the ideas of Tammany Hall, but which look a little peculiar when exercised on behalf of a bill which has been so loudly exploited as a reform movement. Put bluntly, Governor Higgins proceeded to take the Senate by the throat and strangle its judgment. This he did by a usurpation of authority which in normal times would have raised an indignant outcry from the whole State.

The story of what was done last Wednesday night, not by the insurance men but by the Governor and the reformers, would add a most interesting chapter to the history of life insurance, and would reverse some preconceived notions as to which side employed force, as to which side worked in the open and which side worked in the dark, as to which side was apparently fearless, and which side had to resort to "lobby" methods.

If, as it now appears, it was the plan from the beginning to jam this bill through without crossing a "t" or dotting an "i," why did the Republican managers allow the Senate to spend so much time in debate? Wasn't that all a pure fake? If the party whip was to be cracked in case any danger arose, wouldn't it have been more manly to have said so at the outset? Was the body of the Armstrong bill something sacred that it must not be touched? If so, then the Governor could well have afforded to have said so before the debate was begun. Beyond question it was the intention of Senator Armstrong to jam the bill through without amendment. Apparently he had an understanding to that effect with Governor Higgins and the party managers. For the glory of Senator Armstrong one can understand his position, but it is not so easy to understand the position of the Governor, especially when the Governor inadvertently admits, in the memorandum which he gave the press just before the caucus was called, that the action he was taking was necessary because the public demanded it.

In other words, the propriety or the justice or the sanity of the White amendment as a thing by itself was not considered. It was merely a question of public clamor. Governor Higgins and the party leaders have, therefore, absolutely committed themselves to this position, namely: The White amendment may have been right or wrong; it may have been just or unjust; it may have been wise or unwise; but the press and the public have demanded passage of the bill without change, therefore it was politics to put it through.

Be that as it may, the point to consider at this hour is that an amendment was presented by a distinguished Senator, it was discussed in the open, there were no influences whatever at work; after discussion the Senate exercised its constitutional duty and recorded its honest judgment. Then the "lobby" did break loose. Influences were used then, but they emanated from the Executive Chamber. It is a strange chapter indeed which records, after all the scandal and discussion of the last eight months, an incident in the Legislature where the insurance men worked in the open and by absolutely legitimate methods, and the reformers, in order to maintain their position, had to resort to the party lash.

Senator Horace White on the Folly and Wickedness of the Publication of Lists of Policyholders.

(Extract from his Senate speech.)

The provisions of the committee bill seem to me impractical and unworkable. Take, for instance, the New York Life insurance company. It has over 1,000,000 policyholders. It would require over twenty volumes of a thousand pages each to hold all these names and addresses. The preparation of a single list would cost more than $20,000. The bill provides for at least six lists.

It is, therefore, plain that this provision of the committee bill would lead to an enormous expense which would fall upon the policyholders. Then, again, practical men realize that the policyholders would generally act in conformity with the views of the general agents through whom they obtain their policies, and that for this reason the provision of the committee bill would be wholly ineffective. Suppose, for instance, that I as a policyholder desire to communicate with my brother policyholders.

Under the provision of the committee bill it would be a prohibitive task, for it would cost over $20,000 to mail to each

policyholder one letter containing my nomination for trustees, my opinion or my brief. The only time this provision would be workable would be when some financial syndicate or some Thomas W. Lawson for private interests would advance the money to wage such an expensive warfare. Is it not clear then that so far as the average policyholder goes this provision is an absurdity; theoretically it sounds well, but practically it is valueless.

Women and men generally prefer to maintain secrecy in regard to their life insurance policies. Life insurance policies provide a form of protection which concerns the most tender and sacred relations of life. In the case of Venner against the New York Life insurance company, referring to the right of privacy in such transactions, Justice Clarke said: "It is a well known peculiarity of human nature that many men regard their insurance matters as private and personal, and resent inquiries in regard thereto, and would be deeply offended if such matters were made known." It is not always in the public interest that such private matters should be open to public gaze. Is it not an outrageous invasion of private rights that policyholders should be compelled to have their names and addresses and the amount of their policies exposed to the world without their consent? Would anybody knowingly insure in a company subject to such harsh provisions, when they can obtain privacy by taking out a policy in a stock insurance company?

As I understand it, in foreign lands the authorities forbid such publication. Not a single State in the Union permits such a course. How can you enforce this provision outside the jurisdiction of the States? It seems to me an utterly impotent method of accomplishing the desired purpose, an unwarranted attack upon the rights of individuals, and an unfair discrimination against our own policyholders.

A SAFEGUARD PROPOSED.

On the other hand, the amendment I propose requires these insurance companies to send out at the request of 100 policyholders any proxies, information or brief desired by the policyholders, and if this does not accomplish the purpose, and if it is desirable to cast this burden of expense upon the policyholders, then let us require the filing of the lists, but let the lists be in the confidential custody of the Superintendent of Insurance, the Attorney General, or whoever else you wish, and require such official under the severest penalty to promptly send to each policyholder such nomination, information or brief as may be desired by the policyholder.

Tell me wherein this last suggestion fails to accomplish all that you desire; tell me wherein the interest of the policyholder is not as thoroughly guarded as in your own provision! It cannot for an instant be claimed that it does not accomplish all of the desirable features, while eliminating most of the undesirable features of your proposed section.

The lists of policyholders have been acquired by these companies as the result of American enterprise, stupendous labor and the expenditure of vast sums of money. You admit these lists are of incalculable value to the policyholders. The policyholders have the right to have these lists guarded with the utmost secrecy because they represent a vast property right.

What do you propose? The effect of your suggestion is that these lists are practically thrown open to the world, made public property, and these personal rights and these immense assets destroyed in an instant. It seems to me a monstrous proposition. It is not expected to help the policyholders. It will not be for the welfare of the policyholders. It is the result of the hysterical sensationalism of the hour. Its practical effect will be to allow such financial demagogues as Thomas W. Lawson to acquire these vast property rights; to give to them what belongs to the policyholders, and it will subject these New York companies to the most ruinous and unjustifiable competition.

Nor is this all. The Armstrong investigation made notorious the fact that one of the meanest, most dangerous abuses which existed in the life insurance business came from what is called "twisting"; in common phrase "twisting" means the practice resorted to by the unscrupulous to persuade the inexperienced and easily influenced to allow their policy in a certain company to lapse, and to take out a new policy with another company. Generally speaking, this would mean that the policyholder would forfeit the money he had put into company No. 1, while the "twister" would reap a rich reward by inducing the policyholder to take out another policy in company No. 2. Chiefly by this system $20.000,000 has been thrown away by such policyholders since this agitation began.

THE VENNER CASE.

Again, let me call your attention to the Venner case, where the learned justice said: "The solicitations these policyholders might be exposed to, the offers that might be made to them to exchange their policies for others, might result in great harm and loss to many innocent, inexperienced and easily influenced men." Every practical insurance man knows that the filing of these lists, unguarded as the provision stands by the terms of the original bill, would throw open the door wide to the most scandalous abuses, and to the greatest hardship to the policyholders.

The members of the Armstrong Committee are human beings; they have been under a severe strain and arduous labors. They have been goaded on by the yellow sensational press; they have been excited by the scandals and abuses which have been exposed. They have been subject to advice and impositions by all kinds and classes of men to the end that while they have done a valuable work, still, in some ways, the results are singularly devoid of common sense. It passes all understanding that the committee fails to realize the danger in the provision it now advocates, and that it has not the independence and moral courage to rectify this grevious wrong.

We are here to serve the State and to protect the policyholders; some of the members upon this floor, intoxicated by their political ambitions, act as if our function here was to crucify everybody in the insurance business. In their zeal to punish the wrongdoers, they disregard utterly the rights and welfare of the policyholders. The provision requires that the list shall be filed June 15. The statistics of the New York Life show that by November 15, when the election occurs, there will be changes in respect to 214,000 policies.

This fact shows the inadequate character of the committee provision. Heretofore there have been appeals to the courts for this list of policyholders, with their addresses, but as I have already cited, the courts have declared against such applications. Thus it will be seen that the judiciary, prior to this wave of unthinking hysteria, saw the very dangers I have pointed out, realized that the policyholders had rights in the premises, that such competition was unjust, that "twisting" was a menace to the public, and with all the force of judicial influence and learning refused the attempt to force the companies to expose the lists of their policyholders.

If, in the cool, dispassionate judgment of the bench, these dangers have been apparent, may we not well hesitate before committing ourselves to this rash expedient.

The San Francisco Conflagration—Additional Statements by the Companies.

Austin Fire of Texas.—Our latest advice is a telegram of this date from an employee in which it is stated that our loss in San Francisco may exceed $100,000. The company is in splendid financial condition. Its assets, all of which are good, amount to the sum of $665,000. Even if every dollar of our risks were a total loss, which is not possible, the company would still be solvent and continue to transact its business as usual.

Delaware of Philadelphia.—The company has ample cash, call loans and other quick assets to promptly meet all demands of San Francisco claimants, and the reserve for payment of all other obligations of the company will be in no way impaired in doing so. The Delaware is not a company that will ever avoid its honest obligations. We have indulged in no wild guessing, and have refrained from sensational advertising announcements, being satisfied to prove to you in the end that we meet our obligations with 100 cents on the dollar. Should every policy we have at risk in the entire city of San Francisco come in as a total loss, we would yet have more than $1,000,000 with which to meet other obligations.

Dutchess of Poughkeepsie.—This company has suffered a considerable loss in San Francisco, but from the most complete information received to date there is no reason to doubt that every liability will be promptly and equitably met, and that our policies will continue, as for seventy years past, to be good, dollar for dollar, for their face value.

Fireman's Fund.—Wire from President Dutton states outside estimates of losses both Fireman's Fund and Home between four and five millions. Assets of both companies January 1, $9,055,000. First three months this year adds materially to that, so that we can handle our losses easily with present assets. Directors voted

(*Continued on page* 346.)

Life Insurance Business in Texas in 1905.

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna	215	$390,501	902	$1,648,035	$54,953	$18,643
Bankers' Reserve	18	62,500	26	85,000	314,537	------
Columbian Nat	125	478,160	104	404,000	11,708	------
Des Moines	86	256,788	74	259,288	9,454	3.000
Equitable, N. Y	3,954	6,477,415	14,114	31,158,264	1,043,120	331,606
Franklin, Ill	992	1,284,856	2,506	3,384,491	119,579	25,972
Fidelity Mutual	357	744,913	2,530	5,016,715	148,542	52,372
Germania	163	425,122	1,054	2,326,932	91,207	75,547
Hartford Life	872	1,469,499	2,501	4,477,099	154,909	96,547
Home, N. Y	319	769,583	1,682	3,260,076	110,550	32,201
Kansas City, Mo	136	397,500	131	318,800	------	------
Manhattan	606	1,666,150	2,557	5,890,699	203,835	42,264
Massachusetts Mut.	164	341,986	957	2,242,720	75,672	6,000
Metropolitan	26,774	6,057,798	46,210	10,558,289	341,202	61,587
Missouri State	442	641,334	647	974,889	26,556	2,000
Minnesota Mutual	159	630,084	359	1,429,913	40,636	17,500
Mutual Benefit	1,006	1,834,009	4,409	9,586,606	346,194	52,178
Mutual Life, N. Y.	2,908	4,994,615	21,406	43,347,768	1,147,190	484,951
Mutual Reserve	161	760,054	1,667	3,788,994	123,630	97,327
National U. S. A.	557	1,202,387	2,111	4,183,581	112,795	34,963
New York Life	8,556	15,241,427	32,119	65,793,597	2,223,963	626,933
North Western Mut	797	1,583,850	4,537	9,360,403	307,335	43,761
National, Vt	596	1,101,985	527	997,359	24,679	------
Pacific Mutual	689	1,140,172	2,595	4,559,770	155,675	50,025
Penn Mutual	1,056	1,878,995	4,020	9,113,485	314,833	79,894
Provident Savings	588	1,225,419	2,238	6,807,340	238,383	119,625
Prudential	398	879,757	1,258	2,940,552	111,564	33,523
Reliance	410	756,100	494	941,070	35,137	1.000
Security Mutual	611	1,022,365	1,731	3,307,122	79,861	16,049
Security T. and L.	136	381,730	514	1,223,646	42,522	29,000
State, Ind	241	839,000	827	3,162,445	84,886	13,000
State Mutual, Ga	124	474,500	131	488,000	16,546	------
Travelers	487	998,483	1,445	3,306,745	90,051	21,301
Union Central	397	876,580	1,845	3,760,142	119,684	25,790
Union Mutual	412	622,372	621	1,075,290	32,144	7,796
Washington	303	786,009	1,186	2,596,004	91,594	24,382
Wisconsin	152	182,500	74	88,000	8,908	3,000
Totals, 1905	55,953	$60,786,446	162,103	$253,864,981	$8,443,948	$2,531,717
" 1904	------	76,802,288	------	247,589,710	7,751,413	2,139,378
" 1903	50,521	63,650,212	131,971	218,785,318	6,909,255	1,972,091
" 1902	62,422	57,141,649	121,199	196,989,539	6,294,125	2,937,205
" 1901	47,102	44,135,135	101,131	165,397,706	5,198,294	1,546,979
" 1900	39,438	38,025,159	87,190	146,564,013	4,584,448	1,630,699
" 1899	30,981	38,039,367	64,665	137,355,135	4,036,970	1,458,298
" 1898	26,478	28,382,772	62,057	116,253,121	3,335,229	1,297,439
" 1897	22,404	23,521,072	52,830	104,013,763	3,121,074	1,135,233
" 1896	22,623	22,781,557	50,142	103,930,085	2,502,832	980,417
" 1895	17,789	28,988,811	44,794	105,524,238	3,307,089	1,008,749

We are indebted to *Texas Insurance* for the figures of 1905.

Life Insurance Business in Canada in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report by the Superintendent of Insurance.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Incurred.
Canadian Companies						
Canada Life	2,843	$6,614,961	39,671	$80,130,075	$3,008,898	$1,567,065
Central Life	370	355,250	579	676,450	18,722	2,000
Confederation	2,854	4,485,948	27,303	40,037,227	1,259,865	687,320
Continental Life	1,032	1,243,890	3,847	4,401,935	143,958	10,735
Crown Life	855	1,446,044	2,199	3,460,744	135,933	15,500
Dominion Life	754	1,043,000	4,573	6,184,089	194,990	62.295
Excelsior, Ordi	1,870	2,428,999	7,156	8,495,405	257,269	39,861
Excelsior, Monthly.	129	14,283	968	119,117	5,645	1,650
Federal	2,235	3,191,061	12,070	16,850,136	572,220	155,575
Great West	4,009	6,052,333	16,468	24,051,382	791,403	117.343
Home Life	1,035	1,288,779	5,070	6,102,517	164,985	28,620
Imperial Life	2,569	3,983,362	10,472	17,287,667	652,931	132,298
London Life, Ordi.	1,173	1,269,059	4,781	4,515,869	137,885	40,343
London Life, Indus	14,483	1,107,589	55,624	4,597,132	246,257	53,573
Manufacturers	2,631	4,061,630	24,417	32,202,141	1,106,302	286,689
Mutual, Canada	3,492	5,681,187	29.606	43,638,288	1,535,627	428,204
National Life	871	1,552,646	3,262	4,823,960	157,717	19,000
North American	2,847	4,335.676	23,415	32,509,534	1,209,290	291,617
Northern Life	1,068	1,305,700	3,898	4,597,488	151,441	17,500
Royal Victoria	749	1,002,100	3,445	4,403,837	138,592	41,000
Sovereign Life	435	739,355	938	1,878,903	80,632	13,375
Order of Foresters.	234	212,050	1.163	1,048,882	23,464	3,041
Sun Life, General.	5,339	7.835,606	33,378	47,802,298	1,732,144	630,714
Sun Life, Thrift	1,329	169,478	8,616	1,136,300	54,416	11,042
Union, General	564	450,461	955	770,614	21.334	1,000
Union, Industrial	36,787	5.668,494	41,824	6,324,912	145,907	27,153
Total	92,557	$67,348,141	365,698	$397,946,902	13,947,827	$4,685,413

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premium Received.	Losses Incurred.
British Companies.						
Commercial Union	10	$81,033	225	$680,185	$20,392	$48,967
Edinburgh Life	------	------	56	111,023	1,887	3,583
Life Asso, Scotland	------	------	574	925,495	23,097	56,694
Liv. & Lon. & Globe	------	------	93	139,451	4,163	24,051
London and Lan	622	1,116,160	6,229	10,132,094	349,068	193,662
London Assurance.	------	------	5	19,220	626	------
N. British & Merc.	------	------	316	796,433	16,013	55,799
Norwich Union	------	------	132	154,713	3,352	12,212
Pelican & Brit. Em	95	353,000	2,374	5,831,096	201,179	204,921
Royal	112	226,750	560	1,402,857	44,043	26,569
Scottish Amicable	------	------	70	186,188	3,331	3,978
Scottish Provident.	------	------	36	99,935	953	8,266
Standard	1,089	2,079,537	11,516	22.919,980	817,922	528,409
Star	24	25,500	238	410,541	14,206	21,413
Total	1,952	$3,881,980	22,424	$43,809,211	$1,500,232	$1,188,524
Amer. Companies.						
Ætna Life	766	$1,205,115	12,298	$17,255,753	$632,413	$579,624
Connecticut Mut	------	------	708	1,271,247	19,072	91,654
Equitable	1,252	2,205,674	11,378	22,657,830	809,902	416,530
Germania	15	26,526	114	176,197	4,823	28,537
Metropolitan, Ordi.	4,796	3,587,343	12,933	10,504,606	413,413	59,100
Metropolitan, Indus.	85,021	11,500,132	232,631	27,961,922	947,362	169,908
Mutual, New York.	2,459	3,721,725	16,402	31,629,770	1,164,401	624,823
Mutual Reserve	57	193,599	2,724	4,340,336	164,258	185,409
National, Vt	------	------	83	65,706	679	8,271
New York Life	5,174	8,250,106	27,768	48,398,701	1,654,574	548,468
Northwestern Mut.	------	------	190	225,902	4,622	16,575
Phœnix Mutual	------	------	535	518,170	14,813	22,829
Provident Savings	517	1,054,779	2,376	4,309,310	145,661	47,000
State Life	44	226,503	231	1.456,503	47,742	25,000
Travelers	447	1,412,953	3,668	8,670,169	317,865	206,663
Union Mutual	637	933,760	4,957	7,344,738	232,171	112,302
United States	48	168,000	963	1,791,267	58,887	16,500
Total	101,233	$34,486,215	329,959	$188,578,127	$6,632,658	$3,159,193
Grand totals, 1905	195,742	$105,716,336	718,081	$630,334,240	22,080,717	$9,033,130
" 1904	178,044	98,306,102	656,892	587,880,790	19,969,324	8,832,800
" 1903	178,964	91,577,805	604,986	548,436,200	18,243,099	7,623,297
" 1902	156,380	80,552,966	541,493	508,812,305	17,077,560	6,970,113
" 1901	171,220	73,899,228	484.060	463,769,034	15,189,854	6,845,911
" 1900	107.207	68,896,092	396,240	431,069,846	15,006,941	6,532,111
" 1899	107,651	67,400,733	361,184	404,170,873	13.038,707	5,910,008
" 1898	97,479	55,348,303	320,082	369,908,865	12,017,288	4,949,650
" 1897	79,581	48,517,249	284,454	344,314,448	11,218,497	5,188,214
" 1896	73,282	42,862,489	261,259	327,730,511	10,597,076	4,700,242
" 1895	82,976	44,781,584	245,486	319,781,939	10,312,490	3,940,618
" 1894	100,499	49,263,948	241,131	308,795,881	9,911,654	3,766,886
" 1893	40,246	45,043,606	198,750	295,659,537	9,600,666	3,935,010
" 1892	39,054	44,620,013	184,448	279,110,265	9,070,354	4,084,950
" 1891	34,775	37,866,287	170,793	261,645,627	8,417,702	3,652,284
" 1890	43,640	40,605,757	161,650	248,327,052	8,167,463	3,178,902

Life Insurance Business in Missouri in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna	903	$1,964,233	4,694	$9,727,952	$362,091	$82,188
American Central	811	2,129,250	976	2,502,750	88,218	8,500
Bankers of Neb	81	149.400	473	879,438	32,102	6,000
Bankers Reserve	129	465,000	166	580.000	22,054	------
Chicago Life	33	104,750	36	122,550	3,414	------
Columbian Nat	441	1,825,894	383	1,760,154	55,871	1,000
Connecticut Mut	273	607,248	2,628	6,879,413	195,267	159,494
Des Moines	159	258,096	1,190	1,685,096	52,906	16,000
Equitable, N. Y	1,085	2,027,343	11,116	28,775,191	965,048	334,557
Equitable, Iowa	65	134,250	393	678,638	27,433	------
Federal, Illinois	158	137,515	233	206,817	11,679	6,675
Fidelity Mutual	237	607,866	1.360	3,392,403	110,542	35.863
Franklin, Illinois	319	650,008	1,709	3,570,167	122,736	39,353
Germania	59	128,500	1,097	2,823,210	116,003	100,049
Ger. Mut., St. Louis	89	224,298	702	1,508,837	51,511	27,674
Hartford	131	176,488	1,993	3,962,955	159,217	111,650
Home Life	239	473,266	943	1,657,561	64,160	12,116
Illinois Life	1,014	3,819,400	2.333	6,943,612	167,041	37,489
Inter State, Ind	283	1,049,000	385	1,411,233	105,112	------
John Hancock	1,629	3,134,050	4,057	9,153,192	329,442	32,000
Kansas City	642	1,104,950	2,018	3,166,369	144,469	3,987
Manhattan	144	301,466	721	1,971,726	58,116	50,621
Massachusetts Mut.	471	1.298,462	2,608	7,392,850	258,725	163,074
Metropolitan	6,474	5,276,419	25,420	23,880,520	*2,920,337	207,957
Minnesota Mutual.	854	2,543,270	1,607	4,903,251	158,856	32,500
Missouri State	1,899	3,430,122	4,586	7,428,257	219,159	39,985
Mutual Benefit	1,024	2,023,234	5,728	13,606,638	410,804	222,150
Mutual, New York.	2,800	5,336,956	19,947	48,644,359	1,448,087	630,395
National, Vt	1,186	2,097,193	3,544	6,357,232	205,443	32,508

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
National U. S. A..	367	544,030	1,710	1,929,542	95,605	12,419
New England Mut.	334	679,441	2,335	6,057,366	209,491	77,287
New York Life....	5,796	10,517,282	31,738	65,212,782	2,431,759	792,497
Northwestern Mut.	341	1,149,825	2,368	5,339,805	49,068	40,451
Pacific Mutual.....	528	993,813	1,686	3,198,482	112,981	15,711
Penn Mutual.....	491	855,100	2,191	5,781,211	207,681	30,606
Phœnix Mutual....	358	589,255	2,487	4,141,886	157,702	56,581
Provident L. and T.	383	910,832	1,794	4,394,346	155,510	13,137
Provident Savings.	526	1,285,523	2,632	3,750,351	147,884	53,000
Prudential	4,054	4,242,702	11,827	15,318,338	528,150	117,295
Reliance	6	13,000	9	14,000	593	------
Reserve Loan.....	270	1,020,895	249	926,395	160,621	2,000
Royal Union.....	123	251,908	322	617,887	21,472	5,000
Security Mutual...	285	460,235	471	725,131	24,513	5,000
Security T. and L.	274	975,515	749	1,822,184	68,582	21,710
State Life, Indiana	117	322,900	634	2,160,350	63,850	20,000
State Mutual, Mass.	443	1,091,042	1,572	3,896,462	140,231	51,992
Travelers	370	692,822	2,231	7,446,480	224,750	138,778
Union Central.....	481	1,119,590	2,283	5,841,124	225,435	22,497
Union Mutual.....	124	188,207	1,489	2,583,416	88,750	22,445
United States.....	159	306,359	746	1,338,644	42,836	8,160
Totals, 1905...	39,462	$71,688,232	174,569	$348,568,553	14,023,306	$3,900,441
" 1904...	41,908	73,984,104	160,583	320,981,398	13,133,312	4,805,419
" 1903...	34,918	57,612,230	139,018	283,479,613	11,464,670	3,480,724
" 1902...	34,508	51,368,882	123,537	255,669,736	9,140,460	3,499,195
" 1901...	25,561	45,378,398	105,756	230,780,805	8,842,242	3,205,563
" 1900...	22,075	42,945,382	90,574	208,211,030	6,653,099	2,672,794
" 1899...	21,379	44,526,802	81,618	191,055,601	7,274,719	2,433,369
" 1898...	16,502	33,153,095	74,575	176,977,851	5,547,805	2,286,971
" 1897...	15,569	31,770,573	67,742	164,115,697	6,102,858	2,020,242
" 1896...	12,812	29,108,846	62,545	156,745,744	4,606,503	2,150,840
" 1895...	14,366	33,014,206	60,337	151,900,125	4,588,978	1,958,513
" 1894...	14,062	32,078,408	56,509	143,880,326	4,297,110	1,902,631
" 1893...	14,119	34,628,826	53,508	139,844,864	4,097,737	1,985,819
" 1892...	13,708	33,147,640	49,053	130,167,355	3,926,308	1,640,370
" 1891...	12,606	29,860,751	38,772	107,953,156	8,367,224	1,235,700
" 1890...	9,130	29,095,958	33,757	100,487,508	3,205,953	1,226,019
INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS.						
John Hancock.....	10,151	$1,884,057	20,168	$3,887,274	$127,976	$35,191
Metropolitan	101,725	17,468,195	435,426	63,042,066	------	630,760
National	44	1,760	44	1,760	30	------
Prudential	72,856	9,745,978	186,442	23,940,945	910,311	243,380
Totals	184,776	$29,099,990	642,080	$90,872,045	$1,038,318	$909,331

* Premiums collected on industrial business included in premiums on ordinary business.

Life Insurance Business in Wisconsin in 1905.

(Compiled from the Preliminary Report of the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Companies of Wisconsin.						
Northwestern Mut.	2,946	$6,351,576	30,926	$64,037,439	$2,429,795	$1,076,112
Wisconsin	141	176,500	1,071	1,397,113	51,316	11,000
Companies of Other States.						
Ætna	535	721,257	7,092	10,053,339	391,554	111,769
Central, Des Moines	1,062	1,266,037	1,307	1,523,150	56,535	2,000
Columbian Nat....	95	410,422	86	385,592	11,305	------
Connecticut Mut..	72	105,792	949	1,872,884	50,495	70,253
Conservative	335	536,108	749	1,929,816	69,797	10,506
Des Moines Life...	185	274,776	655	1,459,776	52,357	9,000
Equitable, N. Y...	1,083	2,179,676	7,346	15,709,601	514,282	125,597
Federal Life.....	101	296,010	368	862,167	27,842	------
Fidelity Mutual...	107	151,168	1,015	1,740,458	56,304	5,520
Germania	90	133,300	819	1,237,706	53,522	32,922
Home Life.....	182	228,285	1,415	2,215,049	90,812	49,201
Manhattan	60	135,950	624	1,011,675	32,592	14,990
Massachusetts Mut.	142	242,820	734	1,726,673	75,093	44,828
Metropolitan	26,413	5,735,666	90,665	18,190,719	627,603	91,229
Michigan Mutual...	197	236,374	1,729	1,832,125	62,019	6,205
Minnesota Mutual.	289	904,192	620	1,989,852	57,324	22,000
Mutual Benefit....	386	982,115	2,722	6,341,513	236,916	69,072
Mutual Life, N. Y.	1,862	3,010,869	16,709	29,132,192	925,595	382,902
National, U. S. A..	301	848,244	1,870	2,329,838	108,711	17,384
National, Vt.....	327	472,934	3,365	5,246,631	200,765	29,500
New England Mut.	292	599,632	1,230	2,555,825	92,906	22,037
New York Life....	2,920	4,160,996	19,668	33,206,135	1,092,971	269,445
Pacific Mutual.....	153	236,552	483	708,464	24,946	2,120
Penn Mutual.....	434	1,017,260	2,396	5,773,880	255,352	33,736
Phœnix Mutual....	247	438,799	1,943	2,965,794	107,394	21,950

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Prudential	[illegible]	4,442,189	90,801	17,605,418	609,164	149,604
Reliance, Pa.....	28	32,000	34	36,000	1,552	1,000
Security L. & A., Va	9	18,376	35	129,376	4,422	------
Security Mutual...	45	65,022	178	256,103	7,264	------
Security T. & L...	77	223,640	172	433,293	17,194	3,600
Travelers	259	379,618	800	1,367,408	49,621	21,284
Union Central.....	323	566,000	2,919	5,003,213	175,756	28,125
Union Mutual.....	110	189,675	307	456,732	15,937	8,802
Totals, 1905.....	68,891	$37,709,832	293,802	$242,727,949	$8,637,013	$2,743,691
" 1904.....	68,286	42,163,718	272,828	233,995,632	7,622,692	2,495,324
" 1903.....	72,735	42,328,964	254,197	219,008,856	8,107,901	2,606,618
" 1902.....	63,447	36,358,694	222,094	196,554,217	7,307,489	1,953,418
" 1901.....	63,339	34,514,601	198,844	175,969,512	6,593,634	2,303,910
" 1900.....	64,013	31,624,710	176,757	158,643,689	5,669,955	1,624,842
" 1899.....	60,251	31,047,463	154,207	144,984,114	5,226,946	1,686,120
" 1898.....	39,306	24,432,128	126,665	126,487,206	4,234,882	1,369,768
" 1897.....	35,859	20,863,903	111,831	116,392,989	3,778,467	1,301,737
" 1896.....	33,570	19,646,454	100,225	108,876,506	3,423,581	1,163,251
" 1895.....	35,876	21,870,198	92,142	103,994,711	3,262,042	1,408,523

Fraternal orders had $252,431,260 in force on December 31, 1905.

Fire Insurance Business in Missouri in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report by the Superintendent of Insurance.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Companies of Missouri.			
American Central, St. Louis.....	$17,623,538	$230,339	$95,917
Citizens, St. Louis.....	8,890,198	106,955	34,305
Individual Underwriters, St. Louis..	1,107,550	9,114	20
Totals	$27,621,286	$346,409	$130,242
Companies of Other States.			
Ætna, Hartford.....	$9,236,368	$135,076	$64,298
Agricultural, New York.....	4,509,200	51,770	27,200
Allemannia Fire, Pittsburgh.....	1,423,810	19,526	12,325
Alliance, Philadelphia.....	874,470	11,787	641
American, Boston.....	2,003,082	19,151	9,076
American, Newark.....	11,170,926	124,620	50,264
American Fire, Philadelphia.....	4,585,654	44,429	24,107
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati.....	373,585	8,135	2,932
Assurance Co. of America, New York.	2,762,177	24,127	5,509
Atlanta-Birmingham, Atlanta.....	174,750	2,530	------
Austin Fire, Austin, Tex.....	50,000	604	------
British American, New York.....	606,122	6,824	2,950
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo.....	1,346,810	20,841	11,710
Buffalo German, Buffalo.....	,255,359	43,911	16,269
Calumet, Chicago.....	1,357,640	15,031	902
Camden Fire, Camden.....	775,509	10,988	3,421
City of New York, New York.....	722,201	8,073	161
Colonial, New York.....	1,314,634	17,977	7,298
Commerce, Albany.....	892,389	11,278	2,462
Commonwealth, New York.....	2,342,943	23,312	7,644
Concordia, Milwaukee.....	4,298,066	58,731	26,504
Connecticut Fire, Hartford.....	18,244,280	248,221	130,771
Continental, New York.....	35,375,116	291,992	123,112
County Fire, Philadelphia.....	738,825	10,550	2,351
Delaware, Philadelphia.....	4,825,796	60,321	18,939
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit....	779,238	10,018	3,362
Eagle, New York.....	1,310,134	20,060	1,934
Eastern Fire, Atlantic City.....	570,483	8,082	915
Equitable Fire & Marine, Providence	1,966,155	21,921	15,938
Farmers Fire, York.....	977,595	15,297	7,397
Federal, Jersey City.....	3,167,392	25,606	8,607
Fire Asociation, Philadelphia.....	4,778,118	65,168	41,423
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco.....	5,443,941	58,195	33,828
Firemen's, Newark.....	7,020,268	70,161	24,086
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia.....	1,154,590	15,329	8,846
German, Freeport.....	10,089,479	129,535	54,568
German Alliance, New York.....	3,064,140	39,626	21,774
German American, New York.....	15,395,897	187,395	85,861
German Fire, Peoria.....	673,742	8,561	1,386
German Fire, Pittsburgh.....	4,329,953	43,622	35,308
German National, Chicago.....	3,621,115	46,458	13,263
Germania Fire, New York.....	5,848,530	79,457	46,255
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia.	2,636,090	28,826	9,175
Glens Falls, New York.....	4,805,625	40,904	20,733
Hanover Fire, New York.....	6,404,331	97,798	39,100
Hartford Fire, Hartford.....	32,887,529	409,336	196,505
Home, New York.....	47,212,464	399,518	166,480
Home Fire and Marine, San Francisco	3,832,984	41,511	20,565
Indemnity Fire, New York.....	798,610	9,588	2,934
Insurance Co. of North America....	13,015,511	166,400	59,831
Insurance Co. State of Illinois.....	1,353,777	21,707	8,236
Insurance Co. State of Pennsylvania.	886,136	13,067	3,564
Jefferson Fire, Philadelphia.....	379,850	4,155	1,051
Liverpool, Lon. & Globe, New York..	79,864	1,999	1,742
Lumber, New York.....	198,360	3,492	567
Lumbermen's, Philadelphia.....	1,109,742	14,828	4,437
Mechanics, Philadelphia.....	2,184,602	30,207	10,960
Mechanics and Traders, New Orleans.	1,345,529	14,063	6,029

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston.	1,037,998	14,292	8,879
Metropolitan Fire, Chicago	712,243	11,681	1,972
Michigan Commercial, Detroit	1,444,025	24,073	2,161
Michigfan Fire and Marine, Detroit.	1,169,855	14,187	3,628
Millers National, Chicago	929,959	35,935	41,680
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	2,122,732	20,739	9,421
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	6,141,003	80,480	27,160
Nassau, New York	1,538,984	18,307	3,102
National, Allegheny, Pa	529,831	20,176	2,898
National Fire, Hartford	36,358,378	301,127	114,121
National Union Fire, Pittsburgh	2,206,040	31,394	7,675
Newark Fire	1,291,609	13,971	6,615
New Brunswick Fire, New Brunswick	214,650	2,737	324
New Hampshire Fire	4,799,913	49,915	21,768
New York Fire, New York	1,484,089	16,435	8,216
Niagara Fire, New York	6,287,070	90,256	45,481
North British Mercantile, New York.	1,329,006	7,756	249
North German Fire, New York	2,057,633	30,537	7,572
North River, New York	2,433,886	31,635	11,852
Northern, New York	1,273,015	15,912	3,945
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	11,855,188	97,221	31,116
Orient, Hartford	5,234,637	53,957	14,032
Pacific Fire, New York	959,440	10,302	1,253
Pelican, New York	870,633	10,446	6,413
Pennsylvania Fire	9,122,488	109,784	50,155
Phenix, Brooklyn	16,308,985	200,583	73,817
Phœnix, Hartford	16,399,139	166,310	67,573
Providence-Washington	5,321,934	59,255	23,487
Queen, New York	11,984,727	161,230	88,470
Reliance, Philadelphia	3,776,376	42,995	13,326
Rochester-German, Rochester	3,939,456	49,986	14,772
St. Paul Fire and Marine,	3,714,802	41,231	11,449
Security, New Haven	4,168,641	38,591	17,410
Security Fire, Baltimore	1,889,240	16,505	11,953
Shawnee Fire, Topeka	1,739,973	27,440	3,301
Springfield Fire and Marine	10,881,292	117,915	54,835
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	2,200,605	41,339	9,138
Star Fire, Louisville	637,425	10,394	2,295
Stuyvesant, New York	733,605	9,646	1,109
Teutonia, New Orleans	1,931,945	20,821	6,015
Traders, Chicago	2,823,902	35,358	20,476
Underwriters Amer. Lloyds, N. Y	1,489,300	10,474	------
Union, Philadelphia	1,279,229	12,140	2,073
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	604,813	6,351	5
United States Fire, New York	2,175,241	23,169	4,499
Western, Pittsburgh	1,022,818	13,594	1,195
Western Reserve, Cleveland	170,150	1,861	------
Westchester Fire, New York	4,693,952	58,137	26,102
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York.	2,264,278	26,732	10,970
Totals	$508,137,619	$5,717,059	$2,400,466
Foreign Companies.			
Aachen & Munich Fire	$1,968,254	$23,155	$7,160
Atlas, London	2,928,689	34,541	11,962
British America, Toronto	2,197,043	25,273	5,257
Caledonian, Edinburgh	1,342,071	13,502	1,708
Commercial Union, London	6,381,921	73,379	27,651
Hamburg-Bremen, Germany	3,519,430	49,879	29,491
Liverpool, London and Globe	16,554,319	202,118	115,619
London Assurance Corporation	3,486,917	44,962	14,912
London and Lancashire Fire	3,775,939	41,811	21,773
North British and Mercantile	13,093,443	137,139	54,821
Northern, London	11,037,593	133,402	37,942
Norwich Union Fire, London	4,128,484	47,089	22,812
Palatine, London	2,357,140	26,290	14,868
Phœnix, London	10,536,155	128,308	61,764
Prussian National	3,576,790	30,530	10,894
Royal, Liverpool	13,571,429	139,972	50,528
Royal Exchange, London	2,696,112	30,239	27,157
Scottish Union and National	3,464,410	39,738	19,224
State Fire, Liverpool	490,842	6,161	129
Sun, London	7,492,671	78,402	16,520
Svea, Gothenburg	1,312,476	16,481	4,399
Transatlantic Fire, Hamburg	434,283	5,401	14
Union, London	2,663,368	28,986	1,160
Western, Toronto	5,380,257	48,004	22,038
Totals	$124,390,037	$1,434,760	$579,803
Totals, 1905	$660,148,942	$7,498,228	$3,110,512
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	608,073,474	7,184,793	2,340,844
1903	548,802,436	6,909,497	3,489,328
1902	515,366,496	6,117,514	3,480,982
1901	505,642,430	5,345,799	4,096,914
1900	487,643,151	4,878,231	3,657,335
1899	450,740,282	4,731,382	2,748,780
1898	405,266,796	4,730,459	2,967,754
1897	383,870,790	4,605,890	2,639,949
1896	382,982,600	4,769,386	2,366,955
1895	365,814,279	4,925,340	2,481,371
1894	349,277,150	4,913,499	3,495,363
1893	399,248,169	5,026,444	4,524,619
1892	418,077,261	5,062,634	3,857,776
1891	376,398,844	4,394,697	3,251,195
1890	376,902,731	4,501,369	2,610,839
1880 to 1889	2,996,145,615	37,015,975	22,870,106

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 59.8. The percentage for 1905 was 41.4.

Fire Insurance Business in Canada in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report by the Superintendent of Insurance.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Canadian Companies.			
Acadia Fire, Halifax	$4,585,245	$46,410	$6,463
Anglo-American, Toronto	30,237,132	477,598	143,737
British America, Toronto	51,094,408	751,326	242,700
Canadian Fire, Winnipeg	17,125,321	310,907	76,536
Equity Fire, Toronto	17,565,171	272,373	95,812
London Mutual Fire, London	43,443,344	757,644	258,976
Manitoba, Winnipeg	12,629,610	214,604	46,469
Mercantile Fire, Waterloo	7,747,006	110,388	27,283
Montreal-Canada Fire, Montreal	23,825,408	327,225	116,052
Nova Scotia Fire, Halifax	3,156,007	48,292	5,498
Ottawa Fire, Ottawa	15,600,830	249,869	86,738
Quebec Fire, Quebec	10,241,854	146,960	44,518
Western, Toronto	64,564,936	982,174	257,221
Totals	$301,816,272	$4,695,770	$1,408,003
British Companies.			
Alliance, London	$13,278,705	$198,215	$87,964
Atlas, London	29,392,580	457,399	227,883
Caledonian, Edinburgh	23,338,933	354,976	158,152
Commercial Union, London	40,969,656	647,743	223,062
Guardian, London	37,642,321	643,956	284,460
Law Union and Crown, London	9,419,424	150,168	26,826
Liverpool and London and Globe,	78,873,255	1,304,999	430,892
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	24,497,288	377,446	131,844
London Assurance Corporation	12,684,625	175,150	54,203
North British and Mercantile, London	51,570,724	778,620	282,439
Northern, London	32,464,224	528,163	219,090
Norwich Union Fire, Norwich	37,211,629	606,923	234,299
Phœnix, London	76,292,447	1,290,754	319,759
Royal, Liverpool	95,903,959	1,462,774	490,421
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	20,715,628	318,957	96,963
Sun, London	22,993,896	368,523	150,869
Union, London	42,317,245	659,224	214,580
Totals	$649,566,539	$10,323,990	$3,633,706
American Companies.			
Ætna, Hartford	$17,904,076	$294,314	$95,265
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	5,741,266	108,198	18,730
German American, New York	11,015,696	167,096	34,712
Hartford, Hartford	37,032,588	620,051	185,198
Home, New York	22,283,564	379,208	159,003
Ins. Co. of North America	21,676,780	334,499	82,456
Phenix, Brooklyn	18,441,615	326,781	97,903
Phœnix, Hartford	14,218,012	234,882	78,693
Queen, New York	40,006,650	691,382	214,788
Rochester German, Rochester	372,364	1,690	------
Totals	$188,692,561	$3,158,101	$966,748
Totals, 1905	$1,140,075,372	$18,177,861	$6,008,457
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	1,002,305,105	16,083,116	14,099,534
1903	1,016,145,744	16,136,624	14,111,200
1902	899,681,167	10,626,552	4,158,957
1901	827,791,830	9,662,864	6,772,463
1900	803,428,654	8,331,948	7,774,293
1899	756,257,098	7,928,078	5,178,761
1898	680,651,576	7,349,669	4,784,287
1897	663,698,309	7,157,661	4,701,833
1896	667,514,384	7,079,794	4,157,154
1895	667,639,048	6,943,382	4,993,750
1894	653,589,428	6,711,369	4,591,146
1893	687,553,689	6,783,013	5,010,092
1892	714,603,086	6,715,471	4,349,080
1891	623,418,422	6,172,045	3,911,346
1880 to 1890	5,537,912,103	52,693,037	31,818,444

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 63.1. The percentage in 1905 was 33.0.

(Continued from page 343.)

unanimously Friday evening to pay losses in full as fast as adjusted and continue business, and as soon as practicable formulate plan for restoring both assets and surplus to the maximum.

Girard Fire and Marine.—We beg to announce that we have carefully gone over the amount at risk in the burned district of San Francisco. and find that our total net liabilities is $759,000, on which we estimate a net loss of not exceeding $450,000.

Hartford Fire.—While exact figures have not yet been received, information at hand warrants the statement that the net losses of the Hartford Fire insurance company at San Francisco from all sources will not exceed $5,750,000, and will be well within the policyholders' surplus. In order to properly equip the com-

pany for future usefulness, its capital has been increased under conditions which will not only enable it to promptly pay all San Francisco losses, but will also provide a handsome surplus.—Geo. L. Chase, president.

London and Lancashire.—I am authorized to announce that funds necessary to make due provision for all recognized claims growing out of the San Francisco conflagration will be remitted from the head office of the company at Liverpool.—A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., manager.

Liverpool and London and Globe.—Liverpool, April 30—The San Francisco agent of the Liverpool and London and Globe insurance company has sent word to his office here, estimating its net liability in the earthquake and fire area at $4,335,000. The company today announced that the amount can be paid from the undivided profits, without encroaching on the reserve and reinsurance funds.

New Hampshire Fire now states that "its loss in San Francisco will not exceed $600,000. One-half of this loss can be paid from the excess of the actual market values of securities over and above the values used by the company in making up its statement as of January 1. The company can meet all its obligations in San Francisco, and still have intact its capital, $1,000,000, and an adequate surplus of $1,000,000."

Teutonia of New Orleans.—"While this company has suffered some loss in the disaster at San Francisco, it is a subject of self congratulations that it is relatively not large in comparison with the company's ability to pay. It is the purpose of this company to meet with promptness every liability it may be under, and to maintain, and if possible to increase, its business in all the spheres of its activity, so that its policies shall be regarded, as heretofore, as a guaranty of fair and equitable protection, and hence the company expects your earnest efforts to increase the amount of desirable risks."

Insurance Superintendent Drake on Conditions in the District of Columbia—The Forthcoming National Commissioners' Convention at Washington.

Superintendent Thomas E. Drake, of the District of Columbia, addressed the local board of fire underwriters at Marshall Hall, Md., on April 28, on fire insurance conditions in the District and vicinity, and made a timely allusion to the insurance commissioners' national convention which is to assemble in Washington next September. After thanking his hearers for their cordial welcome, the Superintendent said:

As long as the business of fire insurance is conducted upon arbitrary instead of scientific principles a board of underwriters like yours is necessary, if, indeed, it is not a necessity in any and every case, and I shall favor them. I think, however, statistics should be compiled of waste by fire from all parts of the United States, at least upon which rates, applicable to all kinds of risks, or lines, could be calculated, as was done in formulating rates for life insurance, and which is being done now—the compiling of statistics based upon experience, I mean—by casualty and marine insurance companies. This departure from the original method has had the effect already to reduce the reserve on marine risks, and that means a correspondingly smaller premium, of course. It is the only way the true average cost of fire insurance can ever be arrived at and permanent, uniform, equitable rates established throughout the country.

When I addressed you before the Department of Insurance of the District of Columbia was just being organized. I remember it was then equipped with only one clerk, and up to that time—it had then been established four months—we had not gotten all the necessary documents prepared and printed upon which companies and their agents could qualify. We began the work of licensing companies and agents, however, soon thereafter, but it took just three years and twenty-five days to complete, with the assistance we had, that feature of the work alone that the law required should be done on the day the Department was opened. We did the work of admitting companies thoroughly, however, the result being that after we got through passing upon all the companies that applied for licenses during that interval there was over one hundred that either withdrew from the District or failed to qualify. The result of this thorough cleaning out process, I believe, is apparent, and I also believe, gentlemen, that there is not now an irresponsible fire insurance company doing business in the District. If there is, the Department is not aware of it. If you should hear of any and will advise us we will endeavor to rout them when discovered.

I promised you when I addressed you before that, after getting the Department established, no "wildcats" should operate in the District of Columbia while I am Superintendent, and I have endeavored to faithfully fulfill that promise.

Since the establishment of the Department we have issued and reissued to companies 1,154 licenses, 999 principal agents, 4,684 solicitors and 111 brokers, making a total of 6,948. We collected and turned into the Federal treasury during the same period $293,469.77, which, as a revenue producer, considering the size of the territory (the smallest in the United States), compares in this respect favorably with the leading insurance departments.

You are probably aware of it, but this seems to be an opportune time, nevertheless, to refer to an important event that is to take place next September in Washington, in which not only the insurance interests of the District of Columbia will be concerned but the entire country as well.

Ever since the Department of Insurance of the District of Columbia has been established the insurance commissioners, that assemble in annual convention, have insisted upon holding the next meeting in Washington. Realizing the work and responsibility attendant upon the holding of such a convention, we did not then favor it, for the reason, too, that, until last year, the Department was not fully established. The commissioners and myself agreed to it, though, last fall, and it was voted upon unanimously that the next national convention of insurance commissioners should be held in Washington. This is considered, gentlemen, the greatest compliment that can be bestowed upon an insurance department, and the next convention will be the most important one that has been held during the thirty-five years that the association has been in existence.

It has been the pride of every department where these conventions have been held to make them a pronounced success. We want our department to maintain this high standard, and when the proper time arrives we trust we can depend upon you to assist us in making the forthcoming convention the most successful one that has ever been held.

For the last six months all the insurance commissioners, assisted by the governors and attorneys general throughout the United States, have been working to secure uniform insurance laws, and the uniform insurance bill that is now being prepared by a committee composed of these officials will be submitted for approval to that convention, which will be attended, in addition to the commissioners, by many of the governors, attorneys general and prominent insurance men from all over the country.

In closing I feel that I would be remiss in my duty if I did not refer to two prominent local fire insurance officials who were with us four years ago, but who have since joined the silent majority. One was the Nestor of the fire insurance business in Washington, the other one was the embodiment of energy and good heartedness. They were both men of strong convictions; possessed of sterling character and integrity, and it was certainly an honor to your board to have had their co-operation and support. I trust the work and memory of these men will not soon be forgotten by this fraternity, for they established business principles and set examples in their lines that are well worthy of the emulation of all ambitious men who follow commercial pursuits. I refer to Noble D. Larner and John W. Schaffer—two of God's choicest noblemen.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.
LIMITED,
OF LONDON.
OFFICE:
Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references

WESTERN MANAGER

Care of WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William St., New York City

Applications will be considered strictly confidential.

C. H. Buuker, President. Franklin H. Head, Vice-President.
A. A. Smith, Secretary, H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.

Continental Casualty Company

POLICIES ARE PROTECTED by more than ONE MILLION DOLLARS ASSETS.

Capital Stock, $300,000.00

Accident and Health Insurance

General Offices, **Chicago.**

OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS paid in claims to 175,000 of our POLICYHOLDERS.

GOOD CONTRACTS IN GOOD TERRITORY TO GOOD MEN

Producers, address H. G. B. Alexander, 2d Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr. 134 Monroe Street, Chicago.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

Insurance solicitors of character and ability, having a record for quality rather than quantity, can secure good territory and a liberal contract by addressing

---

C. H. JACKSON, Agency Secretary

HOME OFFICE

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41 (Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.

Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencie
WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1906

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance.

The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy.

Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO., INCORPORATED 1833.

FIRE AND MARINE. Head Office: TORONTO, CANADA.

UNITED STATES BRANCH.

JANUARY 1, 1906

Assets	$1,542,949.10
Liabilities	1,046,546.17
Net Surplus	$496,402.93

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.

United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

Liverpool & London & Globe Ins. Co.,

ESTABLISHED, 1836. ENTERED THE UNITED STATES, 1848.

NEW YORK OFFICE:
WILLIAM & PINE STREETS.

NEW ENGLAND, NEW YORK, PENNSYLVANIA,
OHIO, INDIANA, KENTUCKY,
TENNESSEE, ARKANSAS, MARYLAND,
DELAWARE, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA,
NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

H. W. EATON, Resident Manager.
GEO. W. HOYT, Deputy Manager.
JOHN J. MARTIN, Agency Superintendent.

CHICAGO OFFICE:
203—205 LA SALLE STREET

ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN,
IOWA, WISCONSIN,
MINNESOTA, MISSOURI,
COLORADO, DAKOTA, KANSAS, NEBRASKA,
MONTANA, UTAH,
WYOMING AND NEW MEXICO.
INDIAN AND OKLAHOMA TERRITORIES.

W. S. WARREN, Resident Secretary.
GEO. H. MOORE, J. V. THOMAS, Assistant Secretaries.

NEW ORLEANS OFFICE:
Corner CARONDELET AND GRAVIER STREETS.

LOUISIANA,
MISSISSIPPI,
ALABAMA,
GEORGIA,
FLORIDA,
TEXAS.

CLARENCE F. LOW, Resident Secretary.
J. G. PEPPER. Assistant Secretary.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:
422 CALIFORNIA STREET.

CALIFORNIA,
NEVADA,
OREGON,
WASHINGTON,
IDAHO,
ARIZONA

CHARLES D. HAVEN, Resident Manager.
C. MASON KINNE, Assistant Secretary.

Royal INSURANCE COMPANY
(FIRE)
OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

Agencies in all the principal cities, towns and villages in the United States.

THE Fidelity and Casualty Company,

97-103 CEDAR STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

Assets, $7,683,067.93.
Capital and Surplus, $2,986,463.85.
Losses Paid to January 1, 1906, $21,742.060.27.

This Company grants Insurance as follows:
Bonds of Suretyship for persons in positions of trust,
Fidelity Bonds, Burglary, Plate Glass,
Steam Boiler, Flywheel, Employers',
Public, Teams, Workmen's Collective,
Elevator and General Liability;
Personal Accident, Health and
Bonded Attorneys' List.

OFFICERS:

GEORGE F. SEWARD, President,
ROBERT J. HILLAS, Vice-President-Secretary.
HENRY CROSSLEY, Assistant Secretary.
FRANK E. LAW, Second Assistant Secretary.
GEORGE W. ALLEN, Third Assistant Secretary.

INCORPORATED 1865.

GERMAN INSURANCE CO.

OF FREEPORT, ILL.

The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$6,148,738
Cash Capital	200,000
Liabilities, including reinsurance	3,996,673
Net Surplus	1,952,065

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906		$13,015,852
Liabilities—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,389,121	
Capital Stock	3,000,000	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,731	$13,015,852

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

How's Your Backbone? Can You Stand Alone?

Agents who can answer "strong" and "yes" to the above questions, and who want to be advanced more than they want advances, can secure splendid contracts with liberal renewal commission guarantees from the

Security Trust and Life Insurance Co.

BROADWAY and 26th STREET, NEW YORK

Mr. Thomas Bradley, President
Mr. Geo. B. Luper, 2d Vice-President and General Manager

Connecticut General Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

R. W. HUNTINGTON, Jr., . *President.*
GEORGE E. BULKLEY, . *Secretary and Actuary.*
E. B. PECK, . . . *Assistant Secretary.*
W. W. KNIGHT, M. D., . *Medical Adviser.*

SUN

Insurance Office of London

FOUNDED 1710.

United States Branch: 54 Pine St., New York.

Western Department: 171 La Salle St., Chicago.
Pacific Department: 215 Sansome St., San Francisco.

(FIRE)

German American Insurance Company New York

CAPITAL
$1,500,000
NET SURPLUS
6,442,674
ASSETS
14,052,520

The Union Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

CAPITAL, - - $200,000

STATEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1906.

Total Assets	$718,168
Total Liabilities	366,834
Surplus to Policyholders	351,334

WILLIAM MUIR, President.
E. R. DANNELS, Secretary.
M. JOS. NOWLAN, Assistant Secretary.

Massachusetts Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED 1851

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

ASSETS January 1, 1906,	$40,082,953.35
LIABILITIES,	36,716,579.77
SURPLUS,	3,366,373.58

Definite Paid-up and Cash Surrender Values Written in Every Policy.

JOHN A. HALL, Pres. HENRY M. PHILLIPS, Vice-Pres.
WM. W. McCLENCH, Sec'd Vice-Pres. WM. H. SARGEANT, Sec.

New York Office: 610 Empire Building, 71 Broadway.

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,
CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$50,019,667.03
Liabilities	41,289,151.01
Gross Surplus	8,730,516.02

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.
Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

Bankers Life Insurance Company
of the City of New York.
Foster M. Voorhees, President.
Issues the most liberal policies,
Offers the best renewal contracts to Agents of
Standing and Responsibility.
For particulars apply
Home Office, 31 Nassau St., N.Y. City.

Western Assurance Company

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, CANADA.
INCORPORATED 1851.
Hon. GEO. A. COX, President.
J. J. KENNY, V. P. and Managing Director.
UNITED STATES STATEMENT, JANUARY, 1906.

Assets $2,397,608.00
Surplus in United States 782,945.00

QUEEN

Ins. Co. of America.

NEW YORK.

NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Of the U. S. of A.

Home Office
NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ALBERT M. JOHNSON, President
ROBERT E. SACKETT, Vice-President
ROBERT D. LAY, Secretary
CHAS. B. SHEDD, Treasurer

Admitted assets, $6,092,500.46
Ins. in force - 43,336,600.78
Full paid capital, 1,000,000.00

Policy Contracts Liberal and Up to Date.

Exceptional Inducements offered to wideawake Agents.

For a DEFINITE PROMISE to PAY, well defined, no experiment and taking no chances that technical legal definitions of what constitutes an accident will be used to defeat claims, BUY YOUR INSURANCE in and SELL the policies of

"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.

For particulars address **The Central Accident Ins. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

North British & Mercantile

INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

Established 1809.

OFFICE:

76 WILLIAM STREET,

New York City.

Capital, $2,500,000. AGENTS WANTED.

SURETY ON BONDS.

American Surety Co.,

100 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK.

Capital, $2,500,000.

STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Resources (including Capital, $2,500,000) $6,193,137.53
Liabilities (including Reserve, $856,188.70) 1,347,671.23

HENRY D. LYMAN, *President.*
W. S. JOHNSTON, *Vice-President.*

Telephone : Cortlandt 5395.

British America Assurance Co.

Incorporated 1851.

HEAD OFFICE—TORONTO, CANADA.

U. S. STATEMENT 1906.

Securities deposited with Insurance Departments...	$464,105.34
Securities held by United States Trustees.....	816,061.26
Other United States Assets.....	262,782.50
Total United States Assets.....	$1,542,949.10
Total United States Liabilities.....	1,046,546.17
Surplus in United States.....	$496,402.93

Total Losses paid in U. S. from 1874 to 1905, inclusive, $16,586,749.07.

From latest advices received from the Coast we estimate our San Francisco net losses at $275,000. These will be paid without disturbing the Company's deposits in the United States.

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice President.

Metropolitan Department:
45-49 CEDAR ST., NEW YORK CITY,
Wm. L. Perrin, Manager.

Western Assurance Company

Incorporated 1851.

HEAD OFFICE—TORONTO, CANADA.

U. S. STATEMENT 1906.

Securities deposited with Insurance Departments.....	$522,192
Securities held by United States Trustees.....	1,396,627
Other United States Assets.....	478,789
Total United States Assets.....	$2,397,608
Total United States Liabilities.....	1,614,663
Surplus in United States.....	$782,945

Total Losses paid in U. S. from 1874 to 1905, inclusive, $28,340,136.61.

From latest advices received from the Coast we estimate our San Francisco net losses at $400,000. These will be paid without disturbing the Company's deposits in the United States.

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice President.

Metropolitan Department:
45-49 CEDAR ST., NEW YORK CITY,
Wm. L. Perrin, Manager.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE
Insurance Company.
1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization
A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by.....	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of.....	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of.....	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of.....	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring.....	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. **WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.**

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1906. No. 19.

Published every Saturday by the Underwriter Printing and Publishing Company.

Subscription price: Five Dollars per annum in advance.

All communications should be addressed to THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William Street, New York.

Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

"FEW towns of importance have been found" by the surveyors and inspectors of the National Board of Fire Underwriters "without congested points where a conflagration could easily gather headway" was the statement of President Washburn at the annual meeting of the National Board this week. Coupled with this was the assertion that the people at these perpetually threatened places feel a sense of security altogether unwarranted, and that while the efforts of the organization to arouse them to an appreciation of the danger that besets their possessions has been of temporary effect, they soon "fall back into apathy." It is obvious that if the insurance companies are going to take care of these heedless citizens they must be forced into active protective measures by the heavy penalizing of defects. The annual meeting of the National Board this week was held under conditions unparalleled in twenty-five years. The same resolution to meet disaster bravely was evinced as in 1871, and there was every disposition apparent to join with the veteran president in his reassuring announcement that:

> Happily, in the face of this, the greatest calamity that has ever befallen us, the insurance companies are much better prepared to meet their losses than they have ever been before, and the sufferers by fire will experience less loss by the failure of their underwriters than in any of the great conflagrations which heretofore visited this country.

WHILE the action of the Continental insurance company in refusing to abide by the local rate advance adopted by the nearly unanimous vote of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange may proceed from a candid belief in the impolicy of making New York contribute to the payment of San Francisco losses, the ostentatious attitude of the company as a champion of the rate payer against the injustice of its fellow companies is much to be deprecated. The Continental is a great company, and its chief executive officer is a very able underwriter, and it can well afford to stand above those artifices to which lesser companies resort to build up their business. The Continental is prone to vaunt its superior virtue on too many occasions. The circular issued after the San Francisco fire, reflecting on the soundness of other companies, and commending itself at their expense, is a recent flagrant case in point, and has been very trying to the patience of its associates. It savors not only of selfishness, but of a disregard likewise of consequences to the business as a whole. In any general demoralization it must suffer with the rest. And to get one's self generally hated by one's neighbors is not judicious, however well it may pay temporarily. Sooner or later the weight of the mass will make itself felt on the individual. As for the abstract question of the wisdom of assessing insured values everywhere to repair an extraordinary loss anywhere, it will not be disputed even by the Continental in practice, however much it may pose for local effect. The greatness of the company is founded on its observance of the fundamentals of fire insurance.

WE print two notable articles by Dr. William A. Fricke; one from the May issue of *Moody's Magazine* on the prospective effects of the life insurance legislation recently enacted in New York; the other a review of the life insurance legislation proposed in the Ames bill now before Congress. The promoters of the latter have no doubt been willing to concede its tentative character until it should have the benefit of the rich fruitage that was to come from the labors of the Armstrong Committee. But inadequate as the Ames bill is as a realization of a "model law," it will be seen that it does not suffer by comparison with much of the new legislation of New York. Both are, in the opinion of the reviewer, crude, insufficient, misleading, and in some respects positively detrimental to the life insurance business that shall be affected by them. In discussing the effects of the Armstrong laws, Dr. Fricke selects for criticism the provisions made for prohibiting deferred dividend contracts, the restriction of new business, the interdiction of rebating, the enforcement of standard policy forms, the promotion of mutuality, the election of directors of mutual companies and retaliation upon other States. His conclusion is that these features of the new laws have "placed New York life insurance companies in a straight jacket to be discriminated against, without offering the surest remedy for the real evil, and instead of promoting the organization of new companies will cause or hasten the failure of some, which with proper regulations could have been saved." That these laws can be modified or repealed a year hence if found injurious—which was the excuse offered for hasty and immature legislation by the committee—will not prevent the commission of much evil that will be irremediable. At all events, the new legislation should not serve as a standard for other States, is Dr. Fricke's affirmation. In his searching analysis of the life insurance provisions of the Ames bill pending in the House of Representatives at Washington he points out errors both of commission and omission which, if the bill passed in its present form, would prevent its enactment anywhere outside the District of Columbia. Indeed, it would have the effect of driving companies out of the District, and thus defeating the main purpose of its authors and of the President, who has applauded its motive —the establishment of uniformity through the regulation of business on Federal territory. There can be no dissent from Dr. Fricke's statement that "the chief aim of a model code for the District of Columbia should be such simple, effective provisions governing the domestic companies as to their organization, conduct and supervision, as to have them, when they go out into other States, to transact business, carry the conviction by their equity,

security, benefit and publicity that the laws under which they were organized, conducted and supervised must in reality be a model code."

Facts and Opinions.

Although between three and four weeks have elapsed since the termination of the **San Francisco conflagration**, estimators of the aggregate fire insurance loss are still "at sea" as to the probable amount. A Denver dispatch attributes to B. T. Cunningham, special agent for several companies, returning East from San Francisco, the optimistic statement that "the net losses in San Francisco will amount to $95,000,000." On the other hand, persistent declarations come from California, no doubt from interested local sources, that losses are being seriously underestimated in the East. The San Francisco bankers' Clearing House publishes the claim that $150,000,000 or more will be collected from the insurance companies. The advance in rates on certain risks in New York by the Fire Insurance Exchange is noted elsewhere. An advance of 25 per cent. on unprofitable hazards by the Western Union is foreshadowed. While the belief is that a general advance will be ordered by the companies which are holding conferences in New York, the threatened increase at certain points has been held back. The Continental revolt at New York was much exaggerated outside the city, but it had the effect of halting the movement for a while. British companies on Wednesday wired their San Francisco representatives as follows:

We desire a committee to act with American companies in adjusting losses in strict conformity with each company's separate policy conditions, acting under legal and expert advice, referring home disputed cases involving important principles and doubtful legal liability.

In a review of late, pending and future **life insurance legislation** President Charles W. Scovel, of the National Association of Life Underwriters, in an address to the association members, says of what has been done in New York:

The New York situation. New York stands alone, the only State that has felt specially compelled to push through its legislation in the midst of abnormally excited conditions. On April 27 the Governor signed the last of the bills originally submitted by the Armstrong Committee February 22, but much changed by the 223 amendments made by the committee itself after the public hearings in March, and by other amendments on the floor —and leaving the standard policy forms to be still further amended by the Insurance Commissioner up to October 1. The greatest changes were made in the sections limiting loadings and expenses. For proving to them that these changes were necessary and desirable for the public good, members of the committee have acknowledged that their chief indebtedness is to the agents. That the influence of New York's 18,000 agents could be quickly concentrated at Albany was possible only through the activity of our strong life underwriters' associations in that State. This alone would justify the twenty-three years of association work, apart from all else accomplished. We all recognize gladly the invaluable service rendered, as investigators, by the Armstrong Committee and its able counsel, but no thoughful mind can fail to see that, as legislators, their work was done under such conditions of excitement and haste as to make difficult, if not impossible, the solution of vast, complex problems in any permanent shape. So it is not surprising to hear Mr. Hughes qualify his approval of the bills with the significant reminder that the Legislature sits every year "to correct mistakes." I believe that the climax of the whole agitation has been reached, and that the main work remaining to be done next season by all the other legislatures—and doubtless in the way of revision by the New York Legislature—will be done under vastly different conditions. The passing of the climax was clearly marked by Chairman Armstrong himself in saying, when the last bill got through the Senate, "We have passed through the destructive stage and entered upon the constructive period of the insurance reform." Those words strike a keynote; it is for us to keep it sounding

President Scovel says that the Ames bill in its present form needs revising, and that President Roosevelt's advocacy of this model code plan is a strong indication that the dominant ideas for insurance legislation are coming by way of Chicago rather than New York.

At a meeting of the board of trustees of the **Mutual Life insurance company** on Monday six new trustees were elected to fill vacancies. They are Nathaniel Thayer, of Boston; Hugo Baring, of the banking firm of Baring, Magoun & Co.; Louis Stern, of Stern Brothers; George P. Miller, a lawyer, of Milwaukee; George S. Brown, a partner in the real estate business of Douglas Robinson, brother-in-law of President Roosevelt, and Leroy Springs, the cotton manufacturer of Lancaster, S. C., who was recommended for a place on the board by the policyholders' committee of that State. The trustees also nominated for two of the three vacancies remaining in the board Henry Phipps, formerly a partner of Andrew Carnegie, and William L. McMillan, of Detroit, a son of former United States Senator McMillan, of Michigan. Mr. McMillan is a practicing lawyer. Mr. Phipps has retired from active business and now resides in New York. The plans of the Mutual Life management for reorganizing the executive staff are known definitely now. George T. Dexter, who is now superintendent of domestic agencies, is to be made a second vice president, and is to have charge of the agency department. Grenville M. White, who is at present a secretary, is to be made a second vice president, in charge of the medical department. Isaac F. Lloyd will retain his place as a second vice president. Third Vice President Fonda will be continued in the company's service, but the office which he holds will be abolished. The treasurership has not been settled definitely yet. Former Editor Dix, of *Forest and Stream,* recently secretary of the New Jersey Archæological Society, will be brought into the company as secretary. Emory McClintock as vice president and Mr. Peabody as president will complete the executive force. The reorganization plans do away with the third and fourth vice presidents and one first vice president, and create three second vice presidents instead of one.

The possibility of **a new fire insurance company, with headquarters in Boston,** the first intimation of which was published in THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER of last Saturday, has now become a probability. Mr. Ransom B. Fuller, president of the Boston insurance company, with characteristically keen insight of the needs of the times and determination to meet them, has undertaken the organization of the Old Colony insurance company, to do a fire business, and has the support of his directorate in the plan. The project is to begin with assets of $600,000, composed of a $300,000 capital stock and a paid in surplus of equal amount. The stock is to comprise 3,000 shares, of a par value of $100 each, and to be sold at $200, to make up the surplus desired. While Mr. Fuller intends that the operations of the projected company shall ultimately be of national scope, this consummation is to be gradually and prudently effected. It is believed that subscriptions to the stock will come in rapidly enough to enable the formation of the new company by the middle of the year. Mr. Fuller is to be its president, and Mr. Edmund Winchester, who has managed the fire branch of the Boston with great success, the underwriter of the Old Colony. The name chosen is an inherently good and expressive one, except that it recalls a "mercantile mutual" of the early nineties, which succumbed to its liabilities after a brief existence.

Application was made on behalf of fifteen stockholders of the **Traders insurance company of Chicago** on Saturday in the Circuit Court of that city for a receiver. Byron L. Smith was appointed receiver by the court, his bond being $2,000,000. An attempt on the part of a number of stockholders to save the company by an assessment on the stock failed on account of the unwillingness of others to agree to the plan. A Chicago dispatch to the *Journal of Commerce* says:

Company managers will wonder why the Traders did not protect its policyholders and other creditors by reinsuring its outstanding risks. Its un-

earned premium fund was about $1,300,000, and it had quick assets, apart from mortgages, etc., of over $2,000,000, for which cash would have been immediately available. By reinsuring it would have secured a rebate of approximately $400,000 for the good will of its business, which is now absolutely wrecked, and this large sum is lost to the unfortunate creditors. This feature and the foolish, premature telegrams to certain agents that the company would go into a receiver's hands indicate a bad case of being "rattled" on the part of the Traders' management.

Local agents in Chicago were overwhelmed with business growing out of the failure of the Traders. The general agencies were also besieged with applications from their local agents who had the Traders in the same office to take over its business on such terms as would let the local agent out without loss. It is understood that the receiver will contest every claim made against the company occasioned by the San Francisco losses. The indebtedness to policyholders for unearned premiums was $1,300,000. Of this about 50 per cent. may be liquidated upon the same basis as the San Francisco losses are to be paid. At Atlanta on Thursday Judge Pardee issued a temporary injunction against the Traders, restraining it from interfering in any way with the $10,000 which is now on deposit with State Treasurer Park. The order resulted from a petition asking for a receiver for the $10,000, filed by three creditors of the company.

The **Connecticut Fire** had considerable **trouble in the Rocky Mountain field** after it quit the Western Union. The inspector in charge refused to furnish it with copies of rates unless it would sign an agreement to comply with rules and rates, and in consequence some of its agents were writing below the tariff, claiming that they were unable to ascertain the correct rates. The supervisory committee in charge of the mountain field has now arranged with Manager McDonald that he will abide by all rules and rates of the Rocky Mountain Fire Underwriters' Association, and it rules that the Connecticut may be considered a full fledged member of the organization and enjoy all the rights and privileges of membership. The rule states specifically that graded commissions may be paid in all agencies where the Connecticut is represented with Union companies. This rule practically makes it a Union company in the mountain field, although it operates outside in other Western Union territory. It is reported that steps are to be taken to induce other non-Union companies to affiliate with the Rocky Mountain Fire Underwriters' Association on the same basis as the Connecticut.

A new **automatic policy issuing machine** for accident insurance policies from $500 up has been invented and will soon be put on the market by President H. O. Jackson, of the Southern Life and Accident of Norfolk, Va. The machines, it is claimed, will be placed in hotels, railroad terminals, ferry houses and other public places in the large cities of the East. The coin receiver "identifies each particular coin with the policy issued for it, thus guarding against the use of spurious coins." The slot for the coin is in front, as is that for the policy, which is ejected perforated containing two coupons, when the coin is deposited. The stub is signed by the purchaser, with full name and address, and deposited in the receipt slot of the machine, and the policy and the stub are both stamped with the date and time of issuance. A small coupon, duly stamped and numbered also passes along with the coin to identify it. The coin receivers are aluminum boxes, which, when full, are automatically sealed and replaced by an empty receiver. An accident policy for $500 will cost 5 cents, and for $2,500 25 cents a day. So says a Virginia paper.

The **May special grand jury,** which is in charge of the investigation of the charges against life insurance officials at the instance of District Attorney Jerome, has been in session during the past week, and has had a number of witnesses before it, including Third Vice President Lloyd, of the Mutual, and Edgar W. Rogers, of the stationery firm of Lawrence & Co., who supplied the printing and stationery for the company. Mr. Jerome has not yet determined when President Peabody will be called. With Andrew C. Fields, he will probably be one of the last witnesses in the investigation of the supply department. Mr. Jerome has received assurances that he can have the attendance of Richard A. McCurdy, former president of the company, and his son, Robert H. McCurdy, any time he needs it. The elder McCurdy is still in Europe, but Robert A. McCurdy is in this country and within easy reach of the courts.

The following particulars of the plan to **reorganize the Fireman's Fund insurance company** have been telegraphed East by President Dutton:

Destruction of city maps and records renders it impossible for us to furnish concrete figures confirming our memory of risk in burned district and makes defense imperfect against criticism or attacks of competitors, in case either of assessment on present stock or increase of capital. Directors today unanimously approved plan proposed by leading stockholders of putting a 200 per cent. voluntary assessment into a new Fireman's Fund Insurance Corporation, with $1,000,000 capital and $1,000,000 surplus, to assume all business written since the fire and continue our business with these new assets, above reach of adverse criticism, thus leaving entire and ample assets of the present company to settle outstanding liabilities, securing to it benefit of profit on reinsurance reserve, and preserving interest in remaining assets after settlement to all stockholders, including those local stockholders whose personal losses in the present disaster render them unable to pay assessment, and who would otherwise lose their entire stock. Agency of new corporation will be given present agents. Present stockholders will be given first chance to subscribe up to their present holdings, and unsubscribed stock will be allotted among our friends. Entire holdings of directors spoken for today and more wanted.

The Indiana League is going ahead with the organization of its independent rating bureau, and has disposed of the claim of the State Board that it was a bluff by employing its rater, R. C. Clark, one of the experts of the Committee of Twenty, and levying an assessment of three-quarters of one per cent. on the premiums of the non-Union companies in Indiana. The Field Club still insists that it hopes to be allowed to co-operate with the State Board in the application of schedules, but that if an effort is made to apply the Dean schedule the non-Union contingent will oppose it, as the rates it makes are regarded as too high. One difficulty anticipated is that if two raters are in the field working on two separate schedules, and the non-Union schedule makes the lower rate, as is expected, the Union companies will at once claim that it has cut a rate, regarded from their basis, and will apply the relief rule generally.

Proceedings were brought in the Massachusetts Supreme Court on Thursday by Attorney General Malone, at the instance of the State Insurance Department, against the **American Birth insurance company,** seeking the appointment of a receiver to close up the affairs of the concern. Judge Sheldon issued a temporary injunction preventing the officers and agents from doing business, and an order of notice, returnable yesterday, on the application for a receiver. The American Birth insurance company began business in Massachusetts in 1905. It was organized on the assessment plan to pay disability benefits to mothers after child-birth, and received authority to begin business March 7, 1905. It is officered by women, Mrs. Estelle E. H. Merrill being the president, and has enlisted the interest of some of the most progressive minds of Boston, who will doubtless regret that this interesting experiment was abandoned after so short a trial.

One of the classes which may expect an advance in rates as a result of the San Francisco conflagration is **mining**

plants in the Rocky Mountain field. Losses aggregating over $700,000 have been suffered on a few within a month this year, and experts now claim that they have been inadequately rated. The tariff on smelters is said to be much more equitable. The old style frame chlorination and cyanide plants are specially complained of, as they are given a credit of 10 per cent. for the use of the 80 per cent. coinsurance clause and from 25 to 35 per cent. for private fire protection, which has usually been found wanting. The chemicals used in chlorination and cyanide mills have been found to destroy the fire hose and the insulation of electric wiring, and a charge should be imposed, while large areas are not penalized as they should be.

While **conditions** are very much improved **in Salt Lake City,** the non-board competition is not entirely wiped out. The only agency of any consequence remaining outside the board is Ensign, Elder & Cartwright, representing the National Union, German of Peoria, Northwestern National, Williamsburgh City, Security of New Haven, and Westchester. R. H. Garrigue, special agent for the Stovel general agency at San Francisco, is now in charge of the Pierce agency at Salt Lake City. The agency represented eight of the Stovel companies, but refused to co-operate, and the Stovel companies were all withdrawn by Mr. Garrigue. The Pierce agency was finally bought out entirely by Mr. Stovel, and Mr. Garrigue was installed as local manager, Mr. Pierce being employed on a salary as special agent in Utah and Idaho.

That Edward Carr, a laborer, who formerly lived in the Roxbury district of Boston, is **legally dead,** and that the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters must pay Carr's two sisters $1,000, the amount of a certificate he had taken out in the order for their benefit, is the substance of a finding by Judge Hitchcock in the Superior Court at Boston. Carr, who was unmarried, joined the order in October, 1892, and disappeared in November, 1898. No direct proof of his death was adduced, but the court ruled under the law that unaccounted absence of a person from the State for more than seven years, with no intelligence, after diligent search, of his still being alive, raises the presumption that he is dead.

The beginning of work has been announced by the contractor on the **salt water auxiliary firefighting service** for Manhattan, for which the contract allows 350 working days. The district to be covered lies below Twenty-third street and north of Chambers, between the Bowery, Fourth avenue and the North River. The salt water service, costing $90,000, has been in use in Coney Island since September last, while bids are to be received about July 1 for the installation of a similar system in the congested district of Brooklyn. The Continental Asphalt Company has the $2,824,282 contract for the New York job, while the Allis-Chalmers Company, of New York, will install the motors and pumps.

The **Madison Life insurance company** of Madison, Wis., which was recently investigated by the Wisconsin legislative committee, has called a meeting of its policyholders for this month to levy an assessment or scale the policies. Actuaries reported that the contracts could not be matured from the proceeds of the policies themselves under their terms. They are subject to assessment if the premium rates provided do not prove sufficient to meet the contracts, and in lieu of assessment the face of the policy may be reduced to an amount which the present premiums would pay for. The policyholders will be allowed to decide whether they shall assess themselves or scale their policies.

Several interesting complications will arise out of the adjustment of the **loss on the Camp Bird Mine in Colorado,** which had been wrecked by a snowslide several days before the fire broke out. It has been found that two warehouses containing the mill supplies and other material, higher up on the mountain side, had been swept down by the snowslide and were dumped into the mill, where the débris was afterward destroyed by fire. As the property was insured in the other location an interesting point in the adjustment is expected. The insurance companies have offered to compromise the loss on gold in solution at $149,000, the total insurance being $200,000.

The **estimated loss by fire** in the United States and Canada in the month of April was, according to the compiler of the *Journal of Commerce*, $237,501,150, which includes, of course, the San Francisco estimate. A comparison of the losses of the first four months of 1904, 1905 and 1906 is as follows:

	1904.	1905.	1906.
January	$21,790,200	$16,378,100	$17,723,800
February	90,051,000	25,591,000	18,249,350
March	11,212,150	14,751,400	18,727,750
April	23,623,000	11,901,350	237,501,150
Totals, four months	$146,676,350	$68,621,850	$282,202,050

In a circular to its agents this week the **American insurance company of Newark** says.

The American of Newark appears to be the only one left of the several fire insurance companies bearing that name, and its survival is pretty good evidence that it pays to be conservative. Moderate lines in congested districts, and the accumulation of a large net surplus, are the safest and strongest bulwarks offered to both agents and policyholders. This American has been saving its surplus earnings for many years for just such an emergency as that at San Francisco, and hopes to be equally well prepared to meet the next big conflagration, which is sure to come sooner or later. The cash to pay the million dollars to our California policyholders has already been provided for, and a corps of adjusters have the adjustments well under way.

The annual home office report of the **Northern of London** for 1905 shows that in the fire department the net premiums amounted to £1,112,592, showing an increase of £22,339 in comparison with those of the previous year. The net losses were £533,918, and the total expenses of management (including commissions) were £391,781. The directors having decided to increase the provision for liability under current policies from 45 to 50 per cent., the sum of £55,630 has been deducted from the profit of £176,840, which would otherwise have been shown as the result of the year's working, leaving £121,210 to be carried to the profit and loss account.

The *Monthly Bulletin* of the Fidelity and Casualty Company, alluding to the lamented death of the **Henry H. Hall,** says:

Mr. Hall's services were not confined to insurance interests. He lived in the city of East Orange, N. J., and gave time there to civic interests. He did so in notable ways. There was no other speaker so forcible and so persuasive, no other citizen so constant in effort. He was a worker also in the church and in charitable organizations. In whatever direction Mr. Hall worked men knew instinctively that his honesty was absolute, his sincerity beyond question, his ideals the highest, his disposition to be generous, unfaltering. A rare man indeed has gone from among us.

It is the desire of Chairman Herbert N. Fell, of the membership committee of the **Life Underwriters' Association of New York,** to make that organization equal the "four hundred" in numbers and the "six hundred" in push and enterprise. The association has between three and four hundred members at the present time, and Mr. Fell is sending out application cards to increase the number before the dinner on May 22, when the New York association entertains the executive committee of the National Association. One of the speakers on this occasion will be Charles E. Hughes.

Officers were elected as follows at the annual meeting, at Syracuse, on Tuesday of the **Underwriters' Association of New York State:** President, A. W. Selkirk, Ætna; first vice president, I. Lloyd Greene, Boston insurance company; second vice president, Howard P. Moore, Home; members of the executive committee, F. I. Crisfield, Liverpool and London and Globe, chairman; C. C. Greene, Providence-Washington; F. K. Locke, Union of Philadelphia; F. F. Buell, Agricultural; A. T. Lovett, Fire Association; R. H. Stuart, Security of New Haven.

Charged with arson in the third degree for **setting fire to his own church,** the First Baptist at Waterloo, N. Y., on March 6, the Rev. C. Stuart Bain is under arrest. The minister was first suspected through sending to himself anonymous letters advising him to leave town and stating that it was not the dominie who fired the church. A handwriting expert was sure Mr. Bain had written them. Although insurance of $7,000 fully covered the loss on the church, Mr. Bain collected more money for rebuilding. He was held for further examination.

The new $1,000 **saloon license in Ohio** goes into effect June 1. A number of companies have notified their agents to write no saloon business, either on building or contents, between now and June 1, until it is known positively that the saloon is to be continued after that date under the new law. Present risks are to be carefully inspected, and if a business is to be discontinued insurance is to be canceled. Hereafter no village saloons, buildings or contents will be written, the business being restricted to the large cities.

Accused of **arson with intent to defraud an insurance company,** Morris Young, of Boston, is held in $2,000 for the May term of the grand jury. It is alleged that Young set fire to the house of Max Rotman, 8 Medford court, in February, 1903, and the police state that he received $75 for doing the job by the owner, who wanted to realize on his $1,500 insurance. Rotman is serving a term in State prison for theft. The evidence against Young, who denies guilt, was given by two convicts in the Charlestown prison.

An Albany special to the *World* is responsible for the following statement of the **cost of the Armstrong Investigation Committee:**

The cost of the investigation made by the Armstrong Insurance Committee has been fixed at $100,000. The appropriation was put in the annual supply bill just printed. It is understood that Inquisitor Hughes' share of this sum is $15,000. The bill states that the appropriation is made to cover counsel fees, witness fees, services of stenographers, clerks and other employees, and for the printing of 17,059 copies of the report.

The **Union insurance company of Philadelphia** makes the following announcement concerning San Francisco losses:

The Union insurance company has the satisfaction of announcing the assumption of its entire liabilities in the disaster at San Francisco by a syndicate of stockholders. As reinsurers the company had no direct business in San Francisco; therefore, as far as its agents and the public are concerned, the company is in exactly the same financial condition as before the fire, with assets, capital and surplus intact. The company invites a continuance of the confidence and support of its agents and the public.

WILLIAM MUIR, President.

The **New York Life,** in order to comply with the recently enacted new insurance laws, has instructed every agent to discontinue the use of **illustration books,** actual results and illustration blanks heretofore sent out by the company, and return at once all supplies on hand. Agents are prohibited from using figures to illustrate future dividends or profits on any policies of insurance. Policies to be solicited hereafter solely on the guarantees and agreements contained in them.

The Chattanooga business interests have adopted a resolution commending the **Tennessee conference on insurance,** to be held in Nashville May 17, and declaring that it should be conducive of much good by educating the people concerning insurance matters, "to the end that the laws of our State be so framed as to protect her citizens and at the same time encourage them to protect themselves by better building construction and minimizing our fire hazards."

A lively **rate war** was inaugurated in Chicago May 1 **over plumbers' bonds,** which are due then, with over 1,000 to be issued. The rate has heretofore been $10, and most of the business was carried by the National Surety. Henry L. Ayres, who left the National last year to become general agent of the Metropolitan, cut the rate to $5, and the National rejoined by making the rate $2.50. It was reported that on the next day bonds were written as low as $1 each.

Plans for the new **building of the Massachusetts Mutual Life** at Springfield, Mass., are being drawn by Trowbridge & Livingstone, the New York architects. It has not yet been decided whether to build a seven or a ten story steel structure. The dimensions, however, will probably be 130 by 85 feet. The ground floor of the building to be erected at State and Main streets will be fitted up for the Springfield Safe Deposit and Trust Company.

One hundred and fifty delegates attended the opening session of the **Texas Fire Insurance State Association** May 9. Several of the delegates made speeches in which they ridiculed the suggestion recently made in official circles of Texas that there is a combination of insurance companies. Agents in attendance at the meeting said that the recent action of Chicago agents will not affect the rate situation in Texas.

The directors of the **Michigan Commercial insurance company** on Thursday voted to increase the capital stock to $300,000 and the surplus to $150,000. The additional funds were guaranteed at the meeting, and will be paid in as soon as the necessary legal formalities are completed. The company had no losses at San Francisco, and makes this addition to its financial strength to provide for increasing business.

The House Committee on Judiciary of Congress has given notice to advocates of insurance legislation and to insurance companies that it will begin **hearings on the Ames insurance bill on next Monday, May 14.** The hearings will be before the full committee, instead of the sub-committee, of which Representative Parker, of New Jersey, is chairman. A review of the Ames bill by Dr. W. A. Fricke will be found in this issue.

Officers were elected as follows at a recent meeting in **Los Angeles of the Life Underwriters' Association** of southern California: President, Horatio Haskell, Home Life; first vice president, Frank Coffin, Columbian National Life; second vice president, J. W. Whittington, Ætna Life; treasurer, I. Clark Guy, Penn Mutual Life; secretary, C. I. B. Moore, auditor of the Conservative Life.

The Montreal *Chronicle* says of the **Canadian Government investigation** of life insurance:

The proceedings of the Royal Commission on Insurance have been continued during the past week. We are satisfied that the mode of procedure is unsatisfactory. It is a menace to financial interests of great magnitude, and calculated to do more injury to the cause of life insurance than will be offset by any advantages likely to follow from the work of the commission.

The Southern Department office in Atlanta, Ga., recently established by the **Security of New Haven,** with McClure

Kelley in charge, has been discontinued on orders from the home office, in spite of the fact that several thousand dollars had been spent in preparing to do business and agents appointed, as well as licenses obtained in Alabama, Georgia, Florida and other States.

Surety companies are endeavoring to ascertain the amount of their **liability** under contract bonds written by them **in San Francisco,** with the usual time limit for the completion of the work. They expect that their liability can be released under the conditions of the policies by substituting new bonds covering those who desire to rebuild and a readjustment of premiums.

"The Life Insurance Situation" was the general subject of discussion at the annual dinner of the Economic Club of Boston, which took place at the American House Thursday evening. Those who took part were Bainbridge Colby, of the Truesdale committee; President John M. Holcombe, of the Phœnix Mutual Life, and Louis Branders, of Boston.

Subscriptions have already been taken for the $200,000 capital stock of the **Cosmopolitan Fire insurance company** which is being organized in New York city. J. S. Bache & Co., of No. 42 Broadway, are bankers for the new company and Henry Wollman counsel. A surplus of $100,000 will be secured by disposing of the stock at $150 a share.

The **New Jersey Fire insurance company** has been chartered at Camden with a capital of $200,000 to do a fire and lightning insurance business. The incorporators are James McEvoy, W. C. Smith, Joseph T. England, Herman L. Fiske, Samuel M. Roberts, Thomas Kirkley, Richard Twelves, William H. Bergrantz, George W. McConnor.

By reducing the capital stock of the **Continental Life and Investment Company** of Salt Lake City from $500,000 to $375,000 the liability of the company was considerably reduced at a meeting last week. This is a step in the reorganization plans.

Early in June the executive committee of the **International Association of Accident Underwriters** meet to perfect plans for the annual convention in July at Lake Champlain. Insurance Commissioner Barry, of Michigan, will address the convention.

A committee of twenty engineers and expert inspectors has been appointed by the National Board of Fire Underwriters to go over the **conflagration district in San Francisco** and report on the earthquake and conflagration hazard.

At the annual meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce Mr. **George E. Ide,** president of the Home Life insurance company, was elected a member of the insurance committee, taking the place of the late John A. McCall.

The local agencies of Secor Cunningham & Co. and Rogers & Rollo, of Chicago, have consolidated as **Cunningham, Rogers & Rollo,** representing ten fire insurance companies and being Cook County managers for five of them.

The **fire hazard attaching to curing tobacco** by artificial heat has prompted the executive committee of the New England Insurance Exchange to recommend that permits for such be more exacting and charges higher than heretofore. The new forms and charges are on the calendar for action at next Saturday's meeting of the Exchange.

Having deposited bonds amounting to $100,000 in the Michigan State Treasury, the **Federal Casualty Company of Detroit** has been admitted by Commissioner Barry to do a sick and accident insurance business in the State.

The stockholders of the **National Union Fire insurance company** of Pittsburgh have subscribed the sum of $750,000 to a guaranty fund to provide for San Francisco losses. This precludes impairment of capital.

A Frankfort, Ky., special to this paper says: "Insurance Commissioner Prewitt announces that he will **resist any attempt to raise fire insurance rates** in Kentucky to recoup San Francisco losses."

The **Wisconsin policyholders of the Mutual Life of New York** have perfected an organization. John M. Whitehead, of Janesville, is chairman, and James H. Turner, of Milwaukee, secretary.

The **National Life and Annuity Company** of Jacksonville, Ill., is being promoted by Fred. H. Rowe, former attorney for the Illinois Insurance Department.

A rumored merger of the National Surety and the Empire State Surety is denied by President William B. Joyce, of the former company.

Personal.

Agency Appointments.

Ætna: Blakemore, Pictou & Campbell, of Nashville, Tenn., agents at Nashville, Tenn., succeeding Hart, Sharpe & Co.

Agricultural: Charles R. McCabe (late of the Traders), special agent for Illinois and Wisconsin.

Glens Falls of New York: Turner & Thomas, general agents in Baltimore, succeeding Williams & Thompson.

Niagara of New York: D. P. Barrett, Ohio special agent.

Southern of New Orleans: Maury & Donnelly, general agents for Maryland.

State of Omaha, Neb.: J. Ramsay Barry & Co., Eastern general agents, with headquarters at New York.

Union Central Life of Cincinnati: George S. Guy, district agent, with headquarters at Petersburg, Va.; H. M. Elrode, special agent for Indiana, with headquarters at Richmond.

Mr. Ernest Poindexter, who has been with the National Surety Company's inspection department in New York and the West, has transferred his services to the American Surety. On May 14 Mr. Poindexter leaves for Washington, D. C., which will be his headquarters while inspecting railroad losses in the South for the American Surety. Mr. Poindexter began with the American Bonding of Baltimore.

Mr. Charles N. Grover, of Philadelphia, a special agent of the Mechanics insurance company, was killed in the elevator at the Victoria Hotel, New York, on Tuesday evening. He fell forward in a faint as the car passed the second floor only to have his head crushed in between the elevator and third floor, killing him instantly. He was fifty-four years old.

Assistant Secretary Edward Maneuvre, of the American of Philadelphia, and connected with the company for over twenty years, part of the time in charge of the Philadelphia department, has resigned. He is a member of the executive committee of the Philadelphia Fire Underwriters' Association.

Mr. Robert J. Jeffs, formerly of the New York Life, has resigned from Jeffs & Alden, managers of the Manhattan Life for northern Illinois, with headquarters at Ottawa, to go with the Columbian National Life in Chicago.

Mr. Daniel E. Murphy, for many years general agent of the Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee, died May 6 at his home there, aged sixty years. He was one of the most prominent life underwriters in the West.

Mr. John S. Fielder, for twenty years stamp clerk and secretary of the Board of Fire Underwriters of Monmouth County, died of Bright's

disease at his home in Brielle, near Asbury Park, N. J., on May 3. He was sixty-one years old.

President John A. Hall, of the Massachusetts Mutual Life of Springfield, because of his heavy duties in that capacity, has decided to decline re-election as president of the Springfield Institution for Savings.

Vice President F. W. Gates, of the Canada Life, died Monday at Hamilton after a two weeks' illness from diabetes. He was eighty-four years old, and had been vice president of the company since 1877.

Mr. George L. Shepley, of the insurance firm of Starkweather & Shepley, New York and Providence, arrived this week from Europe on the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse.

Mr. William B. Hornblower has resigned as trustee of the New York Life insurance company. Mr. Oscar S. Straus announces his intention of quitting.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., May 7.—The House accepted without debate the adverse report of the Judiciary Committee on the petition of John E. Reagan and others for a law to require common carriers to provide protection to patrons by insurance or otherwise.

Messrs. Turtle, of Pittsfield; Evans, of Everett, and Barry, of Cambridge, of the House, were appointed on a conference committee with the Senate upon the difference as to the make-up of the recess committee on insurance matters.

BOSTON, Mass., May 8.—In the Senate this afternoon Messrs. Chapple, of Essex; Harding, of the Cape, and Nevin, of the Norfolk, were appointed a committee of conference to act with the House Committee in regard to the make-up of the recess committee on insurance laws.

New York.

ALBANY, N. Y., May 7.—Insurance legislation other than that proposed by the Armstrong Committee received scant attention during the session just at an end. Of the several scores of bills introduced scarcely half a dozen were reported from committee, and not all of these were passed and sent to the Governor.

The Smith anti-compact bill got through the Assembly, but was killed in the Senate Committee.

The Wells bill relating to securities title guaranty corporations managed to pass both houses, and is awaiting the Governor's consideration.

Bills extending the corporate existence of the Dutchess insurance company and the Richmond County Mutual insurance company likewise were passed, and sent to the Governor. Apart from the Armstrong measures, these were the only bills to run the gauntlet of the two houses.

Following is a summary of the session's insurance legislation, exclusive of the Armstrong Committee legislation, the position of each bill being indicated upon the final adjournment of the Legislature:

Senator Marks (Int. No. 14), to prevent grafting in, by and upon life insurance, railroad, etc., companies. Left in Committee of the Whole.

Senator Brackett (Int. No. 19), repealing Section 56 of the insurance law. Left on third reading.

Senator Brackett (Int. No. 20), reorganizing the Insurance Department, providing that its superintendent shall be elected by the people, etc. In committee.

Senator Brackett (Int. No. 21), anti-compact bill directed against fire insurance companies. Left in committee.

Senator Armstrong (Int. No. 183), appropriating $20,000 for obtaining for the use of the Legislature printed copies of the testimony, reports, etc., of the Armstrong Committee. Signed by Governor.

Senator Fitzgerald (Int. No. 372), relative to the powers of title guaranty corporations. Left in Assembly Committee.

Senator Riordan (Int. No. 525), to regulate the publication of printed or written reports in reference to the financial condition of life and fire insurance companies. Left in committee.

Senator Lewis (Int. No. 581), relative to the constitution and bylaws of mutual benefit fraternities. Left in committee.

Senator Davis (Int. No. 470), relating to the admission to transact business in this State of co-operative or assessment insurance corporations organized under the laws of other States. Left in committee.

Senator Hawkins (Int. No. 684), in relation to policies of fire insurance and losses thereunder. Left in committee.

Senator Gardner (Int. No. 767), in relation to the insurance of automobiles. (Same as Assembly No. 1814.) Left on third reading.

Senator Brackett (Int. No. 818), amending the tax law so as to remove from the list of exemptions accumulations in any domestic life insurance corporation held for the exclusive benefit of the insured, other than real estate and stocks, now liable for taxation, and the personal property in excess of $100,000 of a mutual life insurance corporation incorporated in this State before April 10, 1849. Left on third reading.

Assemblyman Tompkins (Int. No. 81), relative to the expenses of the Insurance Department. Left in committee.

Assemblyman Story (Int. No. 133), relative to mutual benefit fraternities. Left in committee.

Assemblyman Hackett (Int. No. 223), requiring insurance companies to pay a portion of their earnings to State charitable institutions. Left in committee.

Assemblyman Carrier (Int. No. 381), in relation to loss under fire insurance policies. Left in committee.

Assemblyman Smith (Int. No. 367), to permit mutual fire insurance companies or associations of other States to do business within this State. Left in committee.

Assemblyman Lupton (Int. No. 740), relating to insuring property in companies not authorized to transact business in this State. Left in committee.

Assemblyman Whitley (Int. No. 818), in relation to mistakes in applications for insurance. Left in committee.

Assemblyman Oglesby (Int. No. 860), in relation to policies of fire insurance and losses thereunder. Left in committee.

Assemblyman Draper (Int. No. 1,034), in relation to fraternal beneficiary societies. Left in committee.

Assemblyman Dowling (Int. No. 1216), in relation to licenses to agents in excepted cases. Left in committee.

Assemblyman Wells (Int. No. 1272), relating to securities title guaranty corporations. Passed both houses and is before the Governor.

Assemblyman Thompson (Int. No. 1378), to amend the insurance law relating to compelling corporations, associations or individuals agreeing to pay a sick benefit or expense of burial, to conform to the insurance law and be subject to supervision and control by the Superintendent of Insurance. Left in committee.

South Carolina.

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 9.—The Attorney General has advised the Governor that the bill passed by the Legislature at its recent session, taxing fire insuranec companies for the support of a firemen's aid association, is not so "glaringly unconstitutional" that it cannot be left to the courts for consideration, and therefore he should give it his approval. Governor Heyward will therefore sign the bill. The companies will probably test the constitutionality of the law in the courts.

Miscellany.

REVIEW OF THE AMES BILL IN CONGRESS.

By William A. Fricke.

This bill should not be credited to the conference of governors, attorneys general and insurance commissioners, nor to the Committee of Fifteen appointed to consider and report on uniform corrective legislation. Only a minority of the committee were present when this bill was presented for consideration; but a few hours could be given to it, and as introduced it does not contain the essential recommendations agreed upon by the conference.

One serious defect in this bill is that while permitting only the issuance of annual dividend policies by mutual life insurance companies, and non-participating policies only by purely stock companies, it DOES NOT MAKE PROVISION FOR AN ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT AND ACCOUNTING ON THE DEFERRED DIVIDEND CONTRACTS HERETOFORE ISSUED BY COMPANIES, thus leaving managements wholly unaccountable for long series of years on 80 per cent. on all policies on which 80 per cent.—fully $250,000,000—of the present surplus was accumulated.

SEC. 1, Pages 1 and 2—Why should not the term *"insurance company"* include FIDELITY AND SURETY COMPANIES?

Why would not the term *"Domestic"* be more properly applied to companies organized in the United States, and "Foreign" to companies organized in other countries, and "Local" companies to those organized in the District of Columbia?

Definition of "unearned premiums," "reinsurance reserve," "net value of policies" and "premium reserve" *not* clearly defined, *nor does Section 8,* to which reference is made in line 3, page 2, provide how same shall be computed.

Definitions "Net assets," "Profits" and "a contract of insurance" should be improved on.

SEC. 2, Pages 2 and 3—Makes all companies of other States and countries *"subject to the provisions of this act as a condition of transacting any business of insurance within the District of Columbia."*

SEC. 4—The words *"in the District of Columbia"* should be inserted after the word *"assets"* in line 18.

SEC. 5, Page 4—Does not require a knowledge of insurance as a prerequisite for appointment as insurance commissioner, requiring only that the appointee shall have no official connection with, own any stock in or be interested other than as a policyholder, in an insurance company.

It creates a purely local district office as a bureau in the National Department of Commerce and Labor, without giving to the Secretary of that department any jurisdiction over this bureau, except that in Section 6 the Secretary is directed to cause a seal of office to be made for the insurance department, and in Section 12 it is provided that the insurance commissioner shall annually make a report to the Secretary, but no provision is made what the Secretary shall or may do with it, or whether it shall be printed or not.

SEC. 8, Page 4—To this section should be added after the last word in line 13 *"in the District of Columbia."*

The words *"authorized to do business"* in line 24 should be stricken out and the word *"incorporated"* inserted; all after the word *"District"* in line 25, page 5, and lines 1 and 2, page 6, should be stricken out.

Lines 3 to 7 inclusive, page 6, would confer authority which Congress does not possess and which is unnecessary if such a company, not authorized to transact business in the District of Columbia, consents to such an examination; however, the expense of all such unauthorized examinations would according to this code be borne by the United States Government, although the people of the District of Columbia, for whose benefit examinations should primarily be made, are not at all interested in the result. *These lines should be stricken out.* All after the word *"report"* in line 11 and words in lines 12 and 13 should be stricken out.

Lines 12, 13 and 14, Page 7—*"May withhold such report from public inspection"* would seemingly conflict with lines 8 to 11 inclusive, page 6. Unless changes suggested in this section are made lines 15 to 22 inclusive, page 7, will require amendment.

This "Model Code" gives the impression of an effort to create a National Department of Insurance, hoping that no one will find it out, and then, if enacted into law, accept the results.

SEC. 9—Should provide that the information called for *shall* be published in the annual report of the Commissioner of Insurance.

In re lines 19, 20 and 21, page 8—What does "a statement of any certificate issued by the *superintendent* extending the time for the disposition thereof" refer to? Evidently copied from New York law and refers to real estate obtained by foreclosure. This code makes no such provision as to domestic companies or certificate by the commissioner.

In re lines 19 to 22 inclusive, page 14—If the commissioner is to be authorized to examine "any company organized under the laws of any foreign company"—see line 25, page 5, and line 1, page 6—why should such foreign company transacting business in the District of Columbia not be required to file also a copy of its home office statement? Either that or the commissioner should only be granted authority to examine its United States branch covered only by the report required in Section 9.

SEC. 10—After the word *"interest"* in line 19, page 15, the words *"but not lower than 3 per centum per annum"* should be inserted.

If the makeshift of preliminary term valuation is to be injected, then insurants should at least be so far protected by inserting after the word *"policies"* in the fifth line, page 15, the following: *"For the first year of insurance, provided, however, that any premium charged in excess of the ordinary life rate at age of insured shall be charged as a reserve liability."*

If permission to employ makeshifts is to be injected into the statutes it would be better to employ the *"select and ultimate method of valuation"* enacted in New York, though neither makeshift is required to evade a full reserve, if annual apportionment and accounting to each policyholder is provided for, and if companies are required to keep within the expense loadings of premiums.

What does all after the word "risks," in line 16, and lines 17 and 18, page 16, mean?

SEC. 11—Should provide that the commissioner *shall* accept the certificate of valuation of the Insurance Commissioner of the State, under whose authority a company is organized and licensed to transact business, when such valuation has been made according to at least the minimum standard provided in Section 10, and provided that the Insurance Commissioner of such State accepts the certificate of valuation as furnished by the commissioner made by him of companies organized in the District of Columbia.

SEC. 12—Provides *only* for an *abstract* of the annual statements of companies in the annual report of the commissioner. Unless the information called for in Section 9 is published in full the information asked for will be of little use to policyholders.

SEC. 15—Page 20, lines 17 to 20 inclusive—If a company has a right to appeal, why should its license be revoked pending such appeal? The commissioner should have no discretion in the matter, and the question of revocation should await final adjudication.

SEC. 16—This section deals with the impairment of *capital,* and makes provision if impaired to the extent of one-fourth or more

on the basis fixed in Section 10. Section 10 does *not* fix the basis of capital.

If this section intends that if the actual funds of a life insurance company are not equal to the net value of its policies, etc., why not say so? A mutual life insurance company has no capital stock to assess, and legislation as to impairment requires other provisions than laid down in *Section 17,* but there seemingly is a conflict between line 18 in Section 17 and line 12 of the same section, and lines 11, 12 and 13 of *Section 15,* page 19.

SEC 18—Is unnecessary. See lines 2 to 5 inclusive, page 19, Section 14.

SEC. 19—Why not strike out in lines 19, 20 and 21, page 22, the words *"for abstracts or summaries of annual statements for publication, when prepared by commissioner, $5"?* The provision in lines 24 and 25, page 22, and line 1, page 23, *"for each copy of paper on file in his office 20 cents per folio, and $1 for certifying same,"* covers the matter fully, and in this connection attention is called to SECTION 20, which is a needless repetition of the same matter.

All after the word *"dollars"* of SECTION 19, line 9, page 23, should be stricken out. Retaliatory laws are vicious in principle and unjustifiable in practice. Such a law cannot benefit companies organized in the District of Columbia, unless the retaliatory fees collected would be returned to them to reimburse the domestic company for the larger fees and taxes paid in other States. To impose retaliatory fees on companies of other States is imposing a penalty for an offense of which they are innocent, making a third party the beneficiary, and does not at all benefit the companies organized in the District of Columbia.

Retaliatory laws have cost policyholders of insurance companies millions of dollars, not one dollar of which has been of the least benefit to them. These laws are costing policyholders hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, and their repeal would do more to make an insurance lobby unnecessary than any law restricting legislative expenditures can do good.

SEC. 21—Sub-Section 4, page 24, lines 20 to 22 inclusive, *conflicts* with *Section 1,* which *excepts fidelity and surety companies;* see line 7, page 1.

SEC. 24—This section should properly be entitled "a law to prohibit the organization of mutual life insurance companies."

This section requires the same amount of capital for the organization of a *mutual* life insurance company as for a purely stock company, and the stockholders having made the mutual company an assured success, which in a purely stock corporation would enhance the value of their stock, they are permitted to surrender it for its par value.

Capital in a mutual life insurance company can be of value only as an evidence of good faith, and this evidence of good faith can be secured without placing the control of the company in the hands of a few stockholders and burdening the policyholders with the added expense incurred by stock dividends. The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, for example, was organized under a requirement of 500 subscribers for insurance, each of whom had paid in one annual premium.

The District of Columbia offers an especially promising field for the organization of a mutual life insurance company under a proper law.

Such a law should provide: That "if organized as a mutual life insurance company, at least 500 persons shall have subscribed in the aggregate for at least $1,000,000 of insurance upon their lives, and shall each have paid in one full annual premium in cash upon the insurance subscribed for, and shall deposit with the Treasurer of the United States, in securities required by law, at least the reserve on all policies as determined by the Insurance Commissioner according to the legal minimum standard prescribed; provided, however, that the valuation of such policies shall be made on the net premium basis, the legal minimum standard shall be the American experience table of mortality, with interest at 3½ per centum per annum, and provided, further, that no policy issued shall be valued as term insurance unless premiums are based upon net term rates, nor shall the Commissioner of Insurance be permitted in the calculation of the reserve of such a company to vary the standard of reserve on the basis of any assumption of mortality, expense or interest savings during earlier policy years. Every such company shall make an annual apportionment and accounting of surplus to each policyholder, and shall be limited in its expenditures for cost of management and the conduct of its business to the expense loading of its premiums."

Such a law would not only offer ample security to its policyholder, but with a proper law providing for the election of directors—*in person or by mail*—proxy voting eliminated, would enable the creation of the Ideal Mutual Life Insurance Company, furnishing ideal protection.

There are no makeshifts necessary—preliminary term, select and ultimate or any other method of valuation—to evade a full legal reserve requirement; nor is there needed any method to enable managements to encroach on the funds of other policyholders for more than the cash premiums received provide for proper and necessary expenditures. This, with statutory enforcement of an annual apportionment and accounting to each policyholder, an annual statement to the insurance department, giving complete information as to financial condition and methods of management, is all the restriction a life insurance company needs to give the best service to its policyholders.

The injustice of SECTION 24 in requiring of a mutual life insurance company the same *capital* as of a stock company is further emphasized by the provision of SECTION 30, line 3, page 35, requiring *in addition* to such capital that *"at least 1,000 persons have subscribed for level premium insurance therein to an amount* not less than $1,000,000, *and that premiums for the entire amount for one full year have been paid," etc.*

SEC. 25—The provisions of this section should be confined to *companies organized in the District of Columbia;* so far as applying to companies of other States or countries the business done in the District of Columbia should—if at all—only be so limited.

SEC. 26—The word *"capital"* in this section should be changed to "FUNDS."

County, town and school district bonds should be included in SUB-SECTION 4.

A new sub-section should be added to read as follows:

"In the notes of policyholders in sums not exceeding the lawful reserve held upon any policy, on the pledge of such policy as collateral security."

While not in express words, or directly, authorizing a company management to act as dealer and cash in poker chips, SUBDIVISION 9TH, page 33, would permit financing the dealer by loaning to him funds on *"personal securities, payable to be paid at a time not exceeding one year, with at least two sureties."*

SUB-SECTIONS 6, 8 and 9 should be stricken out, as they form dangerous precedents; to open the door so widely is only a short step from providing that *three gold balls* shall be the recognized emblem of an insurance company.

SEC. 31—In lines 10 and 11, page 35, the words *"or if after it has commenced to issue policies it shall cease for the period of one year to make new insurance"* should be stricken out.

Suppose the management of a company having $1,000,000,000 of insurance determined not to write new business, should such determination cause its corporate powers to expire and the commissioner be authorized to proceed to close its affairs?

There is ample authority to wind up the affairs of a company if insolvent, but so long as a company maintains solvency and pays its claims, what difference does it make whether it writes new business or not. The National Life of the U. S. A. did not

write any new business for years, and then started in again and is in existence today.

SEC. 33—The Ohio or Wisconsin law on reinsurance should be enacted in place of Section 33. The interests of policyholders in the reinsurance of a company are too vital to be left alone to the *permission of the Insurance Commissioner.*

SEC. 34—The word *"third"* in line 14 should be changed to *"half."*

SEC. 37—The words in lines 16 and 17, *"or by proxy or representative,"* should be stricken out.

SECS. 38 TO 46 INCLUSIVE—It would be so easy a matter to formulate a method of representation on the board of directors of a mutual life insurance company, by the election of such directors according to States or localities based on the membership therein, and so provide a direct vote by policyholders, *either in person or by mail,* without the intervention of the proxy or cumulative voting, that the interest of the policyholders would be much better secured, and give to each a direct and intelligent opportunity for a full and free expression of his choice when an emergency or necessity arises. The freer, fuller and more direct such choice may be expressed the greater will this power of the membership act as a check on company management.

Take, as an example, the application of the cumulative plan proposed in this code to the Mutual Life of New York, if the 16,709 policyholders in Wisconsin were to send a representative to the meeting December 18 to elect its thirty-six directors. There were 689,321 policies in force December 31, 1905, and if held by 689,351 persons and each voting for the thirty-six directors there would be 689,351 votes cast at the election; the Wisconsin representative attending the election and representing 16,709 policies casts all his votes on the cumulative plan either for himself or some *one* other candidate, and so deposits in his own person 601,524 votes for one person.

The only purpose of cumulative voting has been to protect minority interests.

With a method of State or local representation on the board of directors provided, cumulative voting is as unnecessary as the proxy, for the policyholder then *in person or by mail* can intelligently and directly make his own choice, with no chance of combinations or manipulation, and at less expense than the plan presented in this code.

SEC. 47—There are two suggestions worthy of consideration in connection with this section:

1. That with annual apportionment and accounting provided on *all* policies—*heretofore or hereafter issued*—the application of the dividend may well be left as a matter of contract between the insured and the company, as there are, and may be more valuable methods of application to meet the conditions desired by the insured than only those provided for in this section.

2. That the *application* provided for in lines 1 to 6 inclusive, page 43, permits a life insurance company to assume a banking function, by permitting the company to accept apportioned surplus accumulations *as deposits,* pay interest thereon and invest such deposits, not for life insurance purposes but to enable the company to pay the interest. The laws of a number of States prohibit life insurance companies from doing *any* banking business. If the interest agreed on should not be realized or there should come an impairment of such deposits, then the funds of policyholders would be used to make good a speculative venture not contemplated in life insurance.

Lines 20 and 21, page 42, authorize setting aside from surplus *"a contingent reserve not in excess of the amount prescribed in this act."*

Where in the act is such amount prescribed?

With the very wide latitude given companies in this code as to investments, it would seem especially necessary that a rule be laid down for determining the annual divisible surplus, but other than providing that every such corporation on December 31 of each year, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, shall ascertain the surplus earned by it during the year, from which shall be set aside: *"the sums required for the payment of authorized dividends upon the capital stock, if any"—"a contingency reserve not in excess of the amount prescribed in this act,"* every such corporation shall separately *determine the aggregate amount of the remaining surplus, which shall be equitably apportionable to all policies issued on or after the first day of January, 190-, and shall ratably apportion such amount to said policies."*

That there may possibly be a large proportion of the policies of the company heretofore written on the deferred dividend plan and properly should have a share in *"the surplus earned by it during the year"* does not seem to have been given consideration.

Nor does the recommendation of the conference of governors, attorneys general and insurance commissioners held in Chicago, February 1 and 2, 1906, that on deferred dividend policies already issued *"there should be required from this time forward an annual statement and provisional apportionment of surplus to each policyholder, and the aggregate so apportioned to such policyholders should be charged as a liability of the company,"* seem to have been given any special weight by the compilers of this model code, yet from the President's Message to Congress that: "The convention was seeking to accomplish uniformity of insurance legislation"—"and as a prime step toward this purpose to endeavor to secure the enactment by the Congress of the United States of a proper insurance code for the District of Columbia, which might serve as a model for the several States," one would be led to believe—as honestly does the President, and who admits that he has no expert familiarity with the business—that this bill really emanated from the Chicago conference. There is not a governor who attended that conference but would veto this "model" if passed by the Legislature of his State as presented in this bill, if he understood how wholly inadequate it is as an insurance code; and it is questionable whether there is a single insurance commissioner who carefully goes over its provisions who would be ready to offer it as a shield of protection to the people of his own State.

Companies could readily give up so small a field, and without reflection withdraw, and the chief aim of a model code for the District of Columbia should be such simple effective provisions governing the domestic companies as to their organization, conduct and supervision, as to have them, when they go out into other States to transact business, carry the conviction by their equity, security, benefit and publicity that the laws under which they were organized, conducted and supervised must in reality be a *model code.*

SEC. 50—Eighteen years of experience with this law in other States has proven it to be ineffective, nor does it offer the remedy for an evil.

The only effective remedy to minimize rebating is to limit the amount of commission which can be paid in any one year to within the expense loading of the cash premium actually received by the company; this would tend to make commissions uniform, and if then the agent rebates he injures no one but himself.

How utterly ineffective the section here presented can be shown by this illustration: An agent writes an ordinary life policy for $1,000 in the District of Columbia, on which the annual premium is $21.10, of which he returns to the applicant either $5, or even $8.44—his full commission—as an inducement to take the insurance; and *the agent has committed a glaring violation of this law.*

Another agent persuades another resident of the District of Columbia to pay to the company *$100,000* to purchase an annuity; the agent's commisison is 5 per cent., and he returns to the annuitant *$4,000 as a rebate* to prevent the annuity going to some other company, and the agent *has not violated this law.* The law refers only to life or endowment policies.

To enact anti-rebate laws, and permit encroachment on other policyholders' funds to pay excessive commissions, has proven as effective in benefiting the policyholder as a pretty nicely scalloped piece of pink tinted court plaster pasted over a carbuncle on the back of his neck would prove in curing the boil.

Section 50 should be stricken out.

SEC. 52—In place of the word *"hereunder"* in lines 16 and 17, page 47, insert *"in the District of Columbia"*; in line 18 strike out the the word *"any"* and insert *"the"*; in the same line, after the word *"policy,"* strike out the words *"issued thereon."*

SEC. 54—With Section 53 and other sections as to policy provisions, it hardly seems necessary to enact STANDARD POLICY FORMS, and then close the door to all originality, progress and incentive on the part of any company to present a contract form more nearly covering the protective needs of the people, by first compelling the submission of the form for approval to an incumbent in the office of insurance commissioner whose only qualification for appointment laid down in this "model code" is that he shall not be officially interested in or a stockholder in an insurance company, and then having submitted such a form, with the necessary tabulations and calculations, and proven the reasons why the company should be permitted to issue such a policy, the Insurance Commissioner is persuaded to approve the form *with or without modifications thereof, as may seem to him expedient, and establish the same as a standard form of policy which any company doing business within the District shall be entitled to use in addition to the forms hereby prescribed."*

Yet such a new form may represent the study, thought and work of years.

What a stimulating effect it would have had on American inventive genius if the United States patent laws had provided only for the issuance of a certificate reciting "This is a patent," and then served notice on everybody that they were entitled to make use of it without infringement. There would probably be as many patents issued under such a law as there will be philanthropists to put up the necessary capital to organize mutual life insurance companies if this "model code" is enacted.

SEC. 73—If this section refers *only* to fire insurance, the word *"fire"* should be inserted before the word *"insurance"* in the eighteenth line.

SEC. 86—Should either not apply to life insurance brokers, or if it does, should require that the application for such broker's license be indorsed by the companies with whom insurance or reinsurance may be placed.

SEC. 87—Same objection as to Section, 86, as SECTION 89 provides that such broker *"be held to be the company's agent."*

SEC. 91—With the necessary changes in Sections 86 and 87, this section is unnecessary, and should be stricken out.

This "model code" offers neither hope for the new company nor protection for the old policyholder, and of these defects the *man who is in* should receive the most consideration. Why leave him without redress or remedy? There is no excuse for even the merest tyro attempting to draft a code of insurance laws and neglect provision for what has so clearly been shown to be necessary.

FRICK INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, EQUITABLE LIFE, REPORT TO DIRECTORS, page 44:

"The holder of a twenty years' distribution period policy has no knowledge whatever concerning the earnings of his policy until the expiration of the twenty years. He cannot make comparisons with other companies, because he does not know the results in his own case. The absence of accountability makes possible the pursuit of rapidity of growth at undue cost, because the effect of that cost is not felt by the policyholder."

THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS OF WISCONSIN, MINNESOTA, TENNESSEE, KENTUCKY AND NEBRASKA, IN THEIR REPORT OF EXAMINATION OF THE NEW YORK LIFE, pages 78 and 79, say:

"Profits are being accumulated in a blind pool, carried as surplus or additional reserve, constituting a fund absolutely at the disposal of the management, inevitably creating a false conception in its mind as to the resources and obligations of the company, and leading to extravagance." And the commission heartily recommend *"provisions for securing a proper accounting to the present holders of deferred dividend policies."*

NEW YORK LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE REPORT, pages 427 and 428, Vol. X:

"For the most part the companies have denied any legal or equitable obligation with reference to these accumulations prior to actual apportionment, and they have been available to provide means for lavish expense in obtaining new business and for other outlays which would have been checked by a suitable system of accounting."

TRUESDALE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, MUTUAL LIFE, REPORT TO DIRECTORS:

"It is difficult to resist the conclusion that the policy of the management in giving preference to the 'deferred dividend payment' form of insurance was deliberately formed and carefully carried out in furtherance of its ambitious financial schemes. No regular annual accounting was required or made to the beneficiaries of the latter; such accounting was to be made in the future at the end of varying periods, with no check or opportunity for comparison of results year by year between different companies. Such a situation is inherently weak, and dangerous to all concerned, and is undoubtely directly resonsible for many of the troubles which have befallen this company and those identified with its management."

The *real evil* in the past, as shown by these four investigating commissions, has been *the unaccountability* of company managements *as to the surplus accumulations of deferred dividend policies,* and *the remedy* would seem to be *annual accounting*—see page 44, Senate Document No. 333, Fifty-ninth Congress—but this "model code," instead of incorporating this most valuable and necessary recommendation, leaves this class of policyholders to be discriminated against and in worse position than ever.

No man with any knowledge of the business and desirous of reform, if he had the choice of a law prohibiting deferred dividend policies in the future, or a proper law requiring annual apportionment and accounting to each policyholder on *all* policies—heretofore or hereafter issued—but would select annual apportionment and accounting as offering the most immediate and far reaching results for good. Unquestionably, such legislative investigations as conducted by the ARMSTRONG COMMITTEE in New York, and the FREAR COMMITTEE in Wisconsin, of themselves, will bring home to company managements a greater sense of their responsibilities and ultimately result in benefit to the business of life insurance, but it will be futile to expect that such legislative experiments as the "General Bill" in New York, or this kindergarten effort at a "model code" in Washington, can bring about even an imitation millennium in life insurance managements.

The Armstrong Life Insurance Legislation in New York —The Results Will Be Injurious, Not Beneficial to Policyholders.

(*William A. Fricke in the May Number of Moody's Magazine.*)

There are two conclusions forced upon us by a careful reading and study of the testimony taken before the New York Legislative Investigating Committee of the methods and practices of life insurance companies.

1. That the real evil in life insurance is the unaccountability of company managements as to *all* the funds entrusted to their care.
2. That the effect of this evil engendered an extravagance which made life insurance the only business in the world in which competition has increased the cost to the public.

A careful and impartial study of the pages of enactments presented by the committee forces two further conclusions:

1. That the enactments presented do not offer the remedy

for the real evil or a preventive as to its effect on the billions of insurance now outstanding.

2. That while presenting a number of meritorious enactments, which, however, can have no direct influence on the real evil or its effect, the committee also recommends a number of changes making bad laws worse.

If these conclusions are correct, then the results must be of injury, and not of benefit to the policyholders, especially to those insured in New York companies.

Let us reason together! Life insurance is a very simple business proposition; so easily understood that a knowledge of its simplicity is the greatest safeguard against deception and fraud; the things that seem mysterious, that are not readily understood by the man of average intelligence, form no part of real life insurance and properly have no place in a scheme the only claim of which is founded on the protection it affords either to the insured or his beneficiary.

SIMPLICITY OF LIFE INSURANCE.

Life insurance can be conducted only in one way: by the combining of a large number of individuals contributing to a common fund according to the hazard of each, and so insuring themselves. Such a combination is called a company, and to distinguish such groups or combinations from one another they are designated by some distinctive name; but by whatever name, whether organized with a capital stock or one of mutual reciprocal relationship, the fact will always be that their successful conduct is possible only through the combining of many individuals who by means of their contributions are insuring themselves.

However able an inquisitor, the learned counsel of the committee neither had nor laid any claim to an expert knowledge of life insurance; yet after a few short weeks of strenuous searching for truth and light, we are told that he gave this clear and concise presentation of all there is to life insurance:

"We know that we must all die. While we cannot say when any one of us may die, we can, nevertheless, tell with certainty that out of 100,000 a definite number will die in the first or second or third year, and so on. There is, therefore, an absolutely certain event in view, and we combine together to provide for the inevitable loss thereby entailed. We each pay a certain amount in premiums, to which, according to the law of averages, the benefits are proportioned. The sums thus collected have a certain earning power. It costs a certain amount to manage them. There is no more in insurance than this. When it is found that the actual expenses are less than the estimated expenses the difference is refunded. The dividends of insurance companies are nothing but returned overcharges."

Further amplified, there is nothing more uncertain than the duration of a single life, yet few things more certain than the duration of a large number of lives. An excellent illustration of this will be found in the statement that it would be an impossibility to foretell the length of life of any one child born during the year 1906, yet with absolute certainty we can assert that, with few exceptions, all the children born during the year 1906 will have passed away when the coming of the year 2006 is tolled. It is in gathering, study and combination of mortality statistics and experience upon which mortality tables have been formulated, and upon such tables, according to the age of the individual seeking insurance, that every such combination or company to insure lives calculates its rates and reserves, assuming that the moneys contributed will earn a certain rate of interest; so that in the formation of such a combination or company the insurance premium, according to the age of each individual, is calculated on the assumption that the full maximum deaths of the mortality table will be experienced. To this insurance premium is then added an amount for expense, which with a similar amount on all other such premiums shall be sufficient under all conditions which may arise under conservative management to meet every legitimate expense and contingency; and to still further ensure the sufficiency of the premium, a rate of interest is assumed, so low as to make it certain to be realized.

Then we have a premium calculated entirely on the side of safety; a premium which under all ordinary conditions of economy and conservatism should be larger than required. But life insurance demands absolute certainty, and in a combination wherein each is insuring himself, if properly conducted and all interests safeguarded, we should at the end of each year find this result: the death losses incurred have been met, and if the mortality has been lower than the table there has resulted a saving; the expenses have been paid, and if by economy and good management these have been kept within the expense additions to the premiums there is an additional saving; there has been set aside the reserve which the law requires to ensure that the annual premium charge shall not increase as the insured grows older, or payments discontinued, or guarantees realized at a fixed time; and the interest has been realized; if at a higher rate than that assumed there results a profit. It is these savings and profit, with accretions of values, which make up the surplus of a company and constitute, in accordance with the contribution, the overcharge of each policyholder, and if then returned to him the policyholder at the end of the year will be in exactly the same position as to the cost of his insurance as he would have been in the beginning of the year, had it then been possible to determine the exact amount of his contribution or cost for the year.

With this presentation, three simple questions, embodying all there is or ever will be in the proper functions of a life insurance company, will find ready and correct answer:

1. What is a life insurance company organized for?

To furnish life insurance.

2. What is the only purpose for which a life insurance company can receive money for?

To furnish life insurance.

3. If then a policyholder has paid to the company more than was required to meet the cost of his insurance, what must the management of such a company do when the amount of such overcharge has been ascertained?

Either return the amount of the overcharge or furnish more life insurance.

That is all there is to life insurance, and had companies confined themselves within these narrow limits of greatest usefulness there never would have been an evil or a legislative investigation.

So conducted the proper function of State supervision would have been the enforcement of the legal standard of solvency.

So conducted there would have been imposed on managements the greatest test of merit by the requirement of an annual apportionment and accounting to each policyholder, ensuring to each life insurance at actual cost.

So conducted a company, aside from its current premiums, had no other funds than its reserves, which under the law were required to be compounded at a certain rate of interest.

And this was the condition prior to 1869, when companies conducted on the mutual plan were vying with each other in shortening the period of distribution and accounting to policyholders. There were then no extravagance, manipulation of investments, excessive commissions or riotous desire for bigness in these companies; there was rather an over-anxiety—too often at the expense of fair and liberal policy provisions and sometimes of safety—to make the returns to policyholders profitable as the cost reducer of insurance, in comparison with the non-participating contracts offered by the stock competitors.

THE REAL EVIL.

Then was presented the deferred dividend contract. Not even its most bitter opponent will deny that it was the means of increasing the growth of companies, not alone because it held out the alluring bait of large profit but chiefly because it was used as a means to pay agents larger and larger commissions, and bonuses, to stimulate to greater effort in answering the demand of managements for more and yet more business.

The deferred dividend contract had just one weakness, bound to degenerate into evil. Many recognize and admit this now, but to many managements for years this weakness constituted its chief strength; *there was no apportionment and accounting required* as to the surplus accumulations on account of these policies for many years to come. Held to the strictest accountability as to the funds required to be reserved and compounded at a fixed rate of interest, there was not a law or requirement in any State attempting to regulate the accumulation of surplus, which, notwithstanding the growing extravagance and high cost for new business, leaped in bounds to millions, until it aggregated the 300,000,000 mark. It became an easy matter, by adding a few millions as an increase to surplus accumulations, to make a showing of great prosperity and astute management to the directors who did not direct, and the public and policyholders who did not know, and at the same time, by reason of this large surplus, hide large and extravagant expenditures.

The theory that the extravagances of the present would be made up by the savings of the future did not work out in practice when the days of reckoning came, and the scattered few, whose actual results did not realize anywhere near the alluring estimate, gradually became many and all dissatisfied, and yet the surplus of the companies kept right on growing larger until managements themselves, seemingly ashamed of the word "*surplus,*" vied with each other to hide the needless accumulation and their unaccountability of stewardship by the adoption of new terms in its designation, and *special reserve, unassigned funds, contingent guarantee fund* and *reserve to provide dividends,* became misleading favorites.

Annual apportionment and accounting to each policyholder would not have deprived the deferred dividend contract of a single advantage; on the contrary, it would have added to whatever advantages it might have over other forms or plans, and would have held managements not only to a strict accountability of the apportioned surplus carried as a liability, but the annual showing of results to all policyholders would have imposed on company managements the best test of merit and the greatest check on extravagance.

This unaccountability as to these surplus accumulations was *the one great evil* in the business of life insurance; mismanagement and extravagances, by whatever distinctive names, were but excrescences growing up in its shadow. And the simple remedy which should have constituted the chief reform was not one of the recommendations of the Legislative Investigating Committee, so that on 80 per cent. of all the insurance now in force and on $250,000,000 and more of surplus, managements will, in the future, be held no more accountable than in the past—at least so far as the New York Legislature is concerned. It would not be surprising if these policyholders received even less consideration in the future.

However, the enactments recommended by the committee prohibit the further issuance of deferred dividend contracts after January 1, 1907!

As the real evil never was the deferred dividend contract, but in permitting company managements to be wholly unaccountable for the surplus contributed by these contracts, it seems like straining for reform in protecting prospective insurants—born and unborn—after January 1, 1907, against the deferred dividend contract itself, and nevertheless leave the hundreds of thousands of actual present policyholders in worse position than they were, and company managements just as unaccountable to them as they were before the coming of this tidal wave of reform.

For with company managements then being wholly confined to the issuance of annual dividend contracts, and the door closed, locked and bolted to further entrants to the deferred dividend class, and with the accounting to those who now are in deferred for a long period of years and to a time when most of those outliving that period will be too old to take more insurance, and their dissatisfaction at dividend settlements way below estimates or even present unsatisfactory results can have no effect on insurants, since they can no longer obtain that kind of policy, what purpose then can managements have to make a good showing on these old deferred dividend contracts, with every incentive directed to make a good showing on annual dividend policies on which an accounting and return must be made, and on the results of which future insurants will judge the merit of the company.

Will not the accumulated and accumulating funds of present deferred dividend policyholders be exploited for the benefit of the annual dividend policyholders, and will not *such discrimination, already charged against and admitted by one company now under investigation*, become general among companies having a large volume of deferred dividend business on their books? We shall then have a continuance of the same evil, with the victims more helpless than ever.

Yet a provision requiring an annual apportionment and accounting to each policyholder, even though such an apportionment on a deferred dividend policy would of necessity be contingent upon the insured living and paying his premiums, would hold managements to a strict accountability for every dollar of such apportioned surplus, and though only contingent as to the individual, it would become a distinct and definite liability as to this class of contracts and could be used only for the purpose for which accumulated.

Consider for a moment the effect annual apportionment and accounting of surplus to each policyholder would have as a factor for conservatism on investments.

The law of every State already requires by the most stringent rules for the accumulation of the reserve, which must be compounded at a certain rate of interest, as a standard for solvency.

Add to this a requirement for apportionment and accounting, and annually there would be mailed to each policyholder a statement something like this:

Policy No.....
Surplus accumulation contingently credited to policy as per last annual statement..... $.....
Interest Credit: Net rate earned by company.....per cent..... .....
Savings and profit additions for year..... .....

Contingent Surplus Credit, ..., 19..... $.....

N. B.—But for the rate of taxation imposed in your State upon life insurance, which equals a tax of ...per cent. on premiums, the amount of surplus credited to this policy would have been $..... greater. As this is a matter of pecuniary interest to you, will you not call the attention of your representatives in the Legislature to the injustice of such a tax imposition?

The surplus so apportioned becomes immediately a liability, just as is the reserve, and practically the company has and requires no other funds than its current premiums.

To fully safeguard all interests it is only necessary to define the basis for determining the divisible surplus to be apportioned, and this can be done to greater benefit and advantage by a rule for *asset values* than by permitting the creation of a contingent reserve fund, for with a proper basis for the ascertainment of *divisible surplus* fluctuation in values would have been provided for and guarded against, without creating a special fund for which managements would again be unaccountable and which would be liable to offer only another opportunity for financial juggling.

Under such conditions the director will direct, by seeing to it that the funds of the company are invested in such manner as to give the largest return consistent with safety.

Fifty-one insurance departments would see to it that the reserve law is complied with and absolute solvency is maintained to cover all liabilities of the company.

Managements would compete with each other to the end that the policyholders in their annual accounting may have a favorable statement of their stewardship which will bear favorable comparison with those of other companies, and the policyholder will know year by year just what is the cost of his insurance, and just in what measure the management of his company merits his confidence and support.

Such a requirement would be more far reaching in its beneficial results than any other half dozen recommendations of the committee. A proper law requiring annual apportionment and accounting would necessarily provide what constitutes divisible surplus, and such definition would place asset values, from which to deduct liabilities, on such a conservative basis as to make this law of itself the greatest safeguard on investments. Such a law could not be amended or appealed without the knowledge of every policyholder, whereas, however stringent—even if constitutional—the regulations recommended by the committee as to investments offer the policyholder little of permanent protection. The investment law of New York has now been amended *twenty-five times;* the laws governing deposit of securities by home companies and those of other States have been amended *twenty-one times,* and the law as to the change of securities has been amended *twelve times,* while the law on restriction as to real property has been amended *ten times.*

Annual apportionment and accounting will give to each policyholder a statement which he can understand and by which the merit of the company and its management for ability, conservatism and economy will be judged. The policyholder can appreciate such an annual statement; it means dollars and cents to him—a decrease in the cost of insurance, and once placed on the statute books he will never consent to such a law being repealed or weakened by amendment.

How many policyholders ever see the Insurance Department Report, or would be able to analyze the intricacies of his company's statement according to the department form? Changing the requirements as to the reports to be made or the form for such returns, however well meant or drastic the recommendations of the committee, and while of benefit as an aid to publicity, they mean little or nothing of permanent value to the average policyholder. The law on "Reports of Corporations" has been amended *twenty-five times;* the law on "Forms of Reports to be furnished" has been amended *eleven times,* and every year since 1871 the National Convention of Insurance Commissioners has endeavored to make the Annual Statement Blank more perfect; and the good work and intentions will no doubt continue.

These things have been done, are done and will continue to be tampered with, without the policyholders knowing or appreciating for a long time the effect on his individual interests; but once enacted into law the repeal or attempted repeal of annual apportionment and accounting would mean political annihilation for its legislative advocates and a change in the management countenancing such a proposition.

Instead, however, of compelling an annual apportionment and accounting to each policyholder on outstanding deferred dividend contracts, the committee's recommendations absolutely prohibit such contracts in the future, restrict a company conducted on the mutual plan to the issuance of annual dividend contracts after December 31, 1906, but provide that such companies may compete in offering a larger interest rate payable for the privilege of retaining annual surplus accumulations thereon as a deposit for periods of no less than one year—the depositor being permitted to withdraw such deposit only at the anniversary of the policy; yet the laws of a number of States prohibit life insurance companies from doing any banking business.

EFFECTS OF LIMITATION AS A RESTRICTION.

Limitation or restriction as to the amount of new business is inadvisable and detrimental; far more now than ever is it neces-

sary that companies affected by large lapsations and surrenders should be permitted to fill up the gaps by healthy lives so that the effect of adverse selection may not manifest itself by a larger death ratio in the future at an increasing cost to the persistent policyholder, and the only sensible limitation or restriction should be to permit companies to write only such a volume of new business as can be placed on the books at its own cost, without encroachment on the funds belonging to other policyholders.

And this can be done without makeshift or evasion, or engrafting upon the valuation law any isms permitting the expenditure of a larger initial cost than the premiums, without anticipating future savings or profits, actually provide.

The solicitude for the agent, and the new company, would be more touching if the just rights of the agent could by any process of reasoning extend beyond the line where the rights of the policyholder commence, and if the crying need of this country was more new life insurance companies, instead of improved methods in the conduct of those we already have.

There is no further protection of new life insurance companies necessary—as an infant industry—than to lay down, as a rule for limitation of size or new business, that the commission cost of new business shall be confined to the loading for expense, whatever be the percentage rate paid to the agent or however long the period over which the payment of such rate is distributed; each new policy would then pay its own cost and the old and the new company would be on the same basis in the competition for business as to the cost for new business. Such a plan would far outweigh any possible benefit to be derived from any problematical increase in the dividend from expense savings in the future by an experimental method employed to throw the whole commission cost, medical examinations and inspection of risks upon the first year's loading and assumed mortality gains for five years of insurance.

In the early history of life insurance in this country the commissions for procuring new insurances were within the loadings on first premiums; if this loading on present premiums is not a sufficient margin for the larger commission now required, then the payment of the commission should be distributed over a series of years while the insurance written is in force, in such a manner as to always keep the expense for commissions within the loading of premiums actually received in cash by the company. But without any restrictions whatsoever as to the cost for new business, annual apportionment and accounting on all policies, added to the requirement provided for in the gain and loss exhibit comparing the expense with the loading on premiums for the first year of insurance, would have proven a sufficient limitation against excessive commissions and extravagant methods of obtaining new business in the future.

Now, left with the wide gaps in their membership by reason of the numerous surrenders and lapses—and of these there were few but healthy lives—who either first obtained insurance in other companies or felt their physical condition to be such that they were able to replace the insurance, while with the solvency of the companies unquestioned, but few, physically unable to pass another examination or liable to die within the next few years, surrendered or lapsed by reason of the revelations of the investigation, these companies find themselves not only with a limit fixed in the amount of new business they are permitted to write, a factor so necessary to their well being, but with such new and untried restrictions as to the cost of such new business as to make it impossible, with the regular and continued terminations, to hold their own, even if they should be able to write the amount permitted.

Restricted in their own State, these New York companies will be still further hampered in other States in meeting the competition of companies there and not transacting business in New York, therefore not limited as to cost or amount of new business; New York company agents in such other States will be expected to compete with higher commissions and unrestricted competition and freedom, with the result that the New York companies will be discriminated against, however eloquently they may be presented as white robed cherubs with brand new reform wings, while the noisy children romping in the street will be getting all the fun and lead the procession as the *companies not investigated, or without a past,* parade their halos.

It may be argued that any other restriction or limitation of first year cost in any one State would subject its own home companies to discrimination by agents in other States, and this would be true of any method except it be so regulated as to ensure to the agent a fair remuneration by continued service and supplemented with such a system of annual apportionment and accounting to policyholders that the merit of the company and plan of insurance would so readily and clearly be established, that the agent would meet with fewer difficulties by reason of the favorable showing in the interest of the insured.

ANTI-REBATE LAWS NOT A REMEDY.

Much has been reported on the evil effect of rebating, the giving by the agent to the insured a part or all of the commission allowed him as an inducement to take the insurance. There was rebating when the agent's commission was 15 and 20 per cent., but so long as there could not be a rebate sufficiently large to act as the inducement to take the insurance as a "flyer," to be dropped at the end of the year, and the company receive sufficient of the premium to pay the policy's share of the mortality cost and necessary reserve, there were no evil effects and no one was harmed except the agent himself who gave the rebate.

So long as the insured was required to pay 80 per cent., or even 70 per cent. of the full first year's premium, the insurance was taken because of the insurance, and with a view of continuing it in force; but when competition became so rampant and commissions so excessive that agents could offer 75 per cent., 85 per cent., 95 per cent., and even the full premium as a rebate to gain a bonus for volume, then was placed on the books of the company insurance which had contributed little or nothing, and its mortality, reserve and expense requirements were imposed and were met by the funds belonging to other policyholders; when such business lapsed at the end of the year—as was usual—it represented an actual immediate loss, showing its effect in an increase of cost by decreased dividend to the persistent policyholder.

But eighteen years of experience with statutory prohibition of rebating has had no effect on its pernicious practice; still, making the party receiving the rebate alike guilty with the rebater is not a solution or remedy for this excrescence of excessive commissions and extravagance. If not possible of total eradication, it can at least be so minimized that the effect of the rebate will be felt only by the agent who gives it, by the uniform regulation of agency compensation sufficiently remunerative for the persistent worker—without an incentive to promote or as an inducement to lure—yet will compel each new policy to pay its own cost, and by means of an annual accounting to policyholders foster that economy which alone will place upon managements the seal of merit. Real reform first searches out the incitement, and having found a simple cause, applies a simple remedy. Instead of recommending the repeal of an unnecessary statute, a bad law is made worse by still further curtailing its usefulness.

STANDARD POLICY FORMS.

Just why there should have been this attempt to enact standard policy forms, in addition to the statutory regulations otherwise provided, is difficult to understand.

Every policy should contain the full contract expressed in clear and definite terms, and all statutory regulations should be so comprehensive and general as to policy conditions as to permit of the widest liberty consistent with fairness and safety. The absolute prohibition to originality and progress for domestic companies as to policy forms permitted them by the committee's recommendations finds mitigation only in the unconstitutional delegation of legislative authority to the Superintendent of Insurance to alter or amend such standard forms adopted, and to also establish and promulgate additional standard forms. Adding to this the privilege that in any other State or country domestic companies may issue any form of contract they please, not inconsistent with any of the provisions of the insurance law, seems enacting into law the committee's own doubts of the forms recommended being "standard," and shows surprising readiness and willingness to use the New York companies and the people of this State as an experiment, and let them bear the burden of trial. It is said that the best way to find out whether certain fungi are mushrooms or toadstools is to eat them; but, as a rule, the eating is done by those who are not anxious to find out.

Standard forms of life insurance policies should be required to pass through an experimental stage, and should represent the consensus of expert co-operation before being forced upon companies, nor should companies even then be debarred of the benefit of all research and originality in offering more complete forms of protection. Placing the approval of new forms within the jurisdiction of a political incumbent whose knowledge of life insurance, in the past at least, has been an exception—not a requirement, will of itself alone hardly guarantee a conservation of future policyholders' interests.

There can be no question of the value of an impartial legislative investigation, but not even the concession of an earnest endeavor that the results shall be beneficial to the

policyholder, can place a high estimate on ultimate accomplishments of this concluding historical drama.

WHAT INCREASES THE COST.

There are two chief factors which unnecessarily increase the cost of life insurance: *extravagance of management* and *statutory tax impositions,* and the aim of the reformer to achieve results in a revision of the life insurance laws, instead of additional *"thou shalt nots,"* must direct his efforts to such regulations as will promote a competition of economy of managements by a system of accounting to the individual policyholders, providing a method of comparison by which merit will depend upon the measure of economy and conservatism is shown in the results. When added to this there is a repeal of taxes on premiums, cost of examinations imposed on companies made for the protection of the people, and retaliatory taxes making the innocent company the helpless sufferer and the State the unrighteous beneficiary, then shall real reform have been accomplished. The New York Legislature, led by its legislative investigating committee, did neither.

The cost of life insurance is not the premium paid, but the difference between that premium and the amount returned as a dividend, and whatever means will best increase this return will be the best means to decrease the cost of life insurance.

THE RETALIATORY LAW.

With the special emphasis placed upon legislative expenditures, New York could have done excellent service by undoing the great wong it committed in 1865, when it dug up out of the musty records of the past that relic of barbarism, *"an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth,"* and enacted the first reciprocal or retaliatory law, which has cost insurance companies millions of dollars, not one dollar of which was ever of benefit to their policyholders, and this law now is, and will continue, an annual expense of hundreds of thousands of dollars so long as it remains on the statute books. Instances could be multiplied to prove that while the investigation showed the expenditure of great sums for legislative expenditures, many other millions were thereby saved policyholders by preventing amendments to this one law alone in various States.

Well meant, and intended no doubt as a protection to New York companies against statutory impositions in other States, its enactment here was followed as a bad example by thirty-two other States, thus defeating its every purpose and forcing upon companies as a part of good management the scrutiny, investigation and opposition of proposed legislation when tending to injury. And so grew by a process of gradual growth all that became objectionable in an insurance lobby. Under this law it not only became necessary to give attention to every bill introduced affecting the domestic company in its own State, but to guard companies of other States from taxes, conditions and impositions, which otherwise would in retaliation burden the domestic company in such other States.

But instead of relieving the companies of these harassing and annoying conditions, and benefiting not only the policyholders in the saving resulting from the repeal of this law, and enabling companies by an enforced annual accounting to bring right home to the policyholders in other States the impositions which there affect their individual pecuniary interests, and secure their co-operation in obtaining not only relief from unjust laws but also proposed inadvisable measures, the committee has secured a further amendment to this retaliatory law making it still more vicious and unjustifiable and liable to work still greater harm to companies.

Under the now amended law, if the Insurance Department of any other State or country should have the temerity to refuse admission and license to a New York company presenting a certificate of solvency and good management issued by the New York Superintendent, and such company *has complied with any reasonable laws* of such State or country *in the opinion of the New York Superintendent,* then and in every such case the Superintendent may forthwith cancel the authority of every such company organized under the laws of such State or country to do business in this State, and may also refuse license to every such company thereafter applying for admission.

What has happened in the past may happen again in the future. To show what could happen under the law as amended reference is made to the organization of the Traders fire insurance company of New York, of which a number of the most prominent men in this State were persuaded to become directors.

The management was crooked from its inception, had deceived the New York Department from the start, and had never made an honest report. Shortly after its organization it applied for admission to Wisconsin and presented with its false statement a certificate of solvency and good management signed by the Superintendent of Insurance of New York. After inquiry and investigation the Commissioner of Insurance of Wisconsin *refused* the Traders fire insurance company of New York a license to transact business in that State.

Had this *improved* retaliatory law then been in force in New York the prominent gentlemen who were directors and who knew nothing of the management or financial condition of the company could have invoked, and by reason of their great prominence and influence possibly secured, the aid of the Superintendent of Insurance, who could then have revoked the license of the Northwestern Mutual life insurance company, the Milwaukee Mechanics fire insurance company, the Northwestern National fire insurance company and the Concordia fire insurance company *in retaliation.* Then the Commissioner of Insurance of Wisconsin would have retaliated by revoking the licenses of thirteen New York life companies, nine New York casualty and surety companies, thirty-nine New York fire insurance companies and twenty-seven foreign fire and two foreign marine insurance companies, having their deposit and United States office in New York, a total of ninety licenses revoked in retaliation.

And after having destroyed all these valuable agency plants, involving the expenditure of thousands of dollars of policyholders' money, ruining the business of Wisconsin companies in New York, and that of the New York companies in Wisconsin, *then should come, as did,* the shameful failure of the Traders fire insurance company of New York, to the great surprise of its prominent directors!

A knowledge of insurance, to say nothing of that broad statesmanship which alone can raise the legislator from the overcrowded plane of the mere politician, would have dictated a repeal of this law; it has cost policyholders money enough and has done injury enough, and never served a good or decent purpose in any place or at any time.

PROPOSED LAWS DO NOT PROMOTE MUTUALITY.

Mutualization, too, weathered a cyclone of syntax in this investigation, only to find itself still more difficult of attainment. As a provision for the organization of a mutual life insurance company we now have a law requiring not only the deposit of $100,000 in securities with the insurance department—the one prerequisite for the organization of a stock life insurance company—but unlike the stockholders the mutual organizers advancing this necessary deposit and the funds required as promoting expenses must do so under an agreement that interest thereon or repayment shall be made only in the event of the company's having sufficient funds to do so, the repayment of the deposit being possible only after the reserve of the company shall be equal to at least $100,000; in the meantime the money so advanced shall not be considered a liability; *in addition,* the mutual company organizers must secure at least 500 subscribers for at least $1,000,000 of insurance, each paying in one full annual premium in cash. For the purposes of safety and security 1,000 subscribers and $5,000,000 of insurance, with the reserve deposited on the insurance written, until such deposit equaled $100,000, would have answered all purposes, and given some reasonable assurances of the possibility of the organization of mutual companies. Now, any number of organizers—unless philanthropists—having the necessary $100,000 and excess necessary to organize a life insurance company, will take the short cut and easier method of incorporating as a stock company.

WILL THE POLICYHOLDERS CONTROL?

So, too, the voting plan for policyholders of mutual companies is faulty—going too far in some directions and not far enough in others—with assurances only of problematical or unsatisfactory results. In such a proper plan should lie not only the solution of giving to each individual policyholder the freest and fullest exercise of selection, without the intervention of the proxy, but also making the executive directors more conversant and accountable for the details of management.

To accomplish this the first essential is to increase the number of general directors, so that to each State, or given locality with a certain number of members, may be assigned the selection of its own representative on the general board of directors, which general board elects from its own members a smaller executive board of directors, who elect the officers and have supervision of investments, authorization and audit of expenditures, with frequent meetings, subdivided into the necessary committees supervising and authorizing the proper details of management, for which performance of duties they receive compensation; the executive board of directors and officers reporting at the less frequent meetings

of the general board of directors the transactions of the company.

By such a plan of organization there could, with slight amendment of the law, be given compliance with the provision that *a majority of the board of directors be citizens and residents* of the State, by having this requirement apply to the *executive board of directors,* while the *general board of directors* could be elected by the membership on a representative plan either in *person or by mail,* each State or locality being able to exercise the right to vote for its own representative in an intelligent manner, able, with the united action of other districts or localities, to remedy abuse in an emergency without the turmoil of a political campaign resulting in injury to the company, and even then not able to vote intelligently a list of names, which in almost all cases represent strangers to the policyholder, and wherein, under a proxy system, he may be used to further the interests of a faction or selfish purposes for control. The director elected by the members in his own State or locality would attend the meetings of the board in a representative character, and all his own personal interests would be centred in meriting the confidence of his own people. No matter how many individual nominations were filed, having a pecuniary interest in the well being of the company and its management, the policyholder would cast his vote, *either in person or by mail,* for that man as representative best known and most respected for his integrity and ability as meriting his confidence.

Such a representative would not come to a meeting of the board with the revolutionary intentions which would be the natural result of present conditions, fostered by the method of wholesale removal and complete change of the committee's recommendations, which offers to a clique and combination the prospect of gaining control of vast interests and accumulations, and if successful, can result only in great injury and grave danger to the members and their beneficiaries. Such a representative general board would discriminate between the worthy and the unworthy, and recognize that the individual factors making up a successful management require that peculiar ability acquired only by training, experience and study, and that in a life insurance company, of all places, experiments with raw material can have but harmful consequences.

The only claim a policyholder has to a right to vote is his right to representation or participation in the management. Where this right to representation is not granted in the charter or bylaws of the company—even though conducted on the mutual plan—there can be no claim to a right to vote. The only benefit of a right to vote lies in its exercise as a matter of self protection when an emergency arises, and its chief value then depends on the possibility of its exercise under such simple regulation and methods as will give the greatest scope for effectiveness with the least chances of injury to the organization itself.

The method enacted by the committee is cumbersome and expensive, offering every incentive for turmoil, strife and selfish combinations, and will prove ineffective of good results to the policyholder when change of management and practices is most needed, and will prevent the acceptance of nominations by many of the ablest and most desirable candidates in an elective scramble which no company management has any assurances of being able to avoid at any time.

The companies just now affected by this law—four in number—will be required to elect an entirely new board of directors by December 18, for which the open season to hunt proxies commences October 18. In the two largest of these companies, where change of control could offer the most profitable results and dire harm to the policyholders, the boards of directors, with few exceptions, are made up of men of whom any community might well be proud and anxious to honor.

What criticism has been made would have been made of any other set of men in the same position; nearly all men of large affairs and large personal interests they trusted, just as others would have done, to the executive managements which year by year showed more millions of assets, more surplus, more insurance and more policyholders, and with a full amount of securities listed representing which they knew to be ample and safe; add to this no knowledge of insurance practices, and the fact that there were fifty-one insurance departments supposed to supervise the methods and practices of companies to see to it that solvency was maintained and policyholders given fair treatment, and any evil practices of management exposed could find no severer critics or safer guardians against their recurrence than the very men to whom the revelations came as a severer blow than mere abuse of confidence.

But in a wholesale legislation out of office, and the election of a new board of twenty-four to thirty-six directors, the policyholder has no opportunity to discriminate between those manfully standing up and rectifying wrong, and those who joined in the cry of "crucify," to distract attention; all the opportunity given the policyholder will be a choice between the *"Administration ticket"* and the *"Anti-Administration tickets"* which may be presented by the many combinations not always offered without hope of personal reward or gain and not wholly in the interests of the policyholder.

This statement as to the conditions in these two companies is made to emphasize the utterly helpless condition of the policyholders in one of the smaller companies to which the same law applies. No other company in the country so much requires a change in its board of directors or executive control; yet, driven out of nearly every State by insurance department requirements, with policyholders still in these States but no general agencies where lists of policyholders can be filed to meet the requirements of the law, with no supervision or jurisdiction on the part of these other State departments, and with no incentive on the part of any combination possible to disinterestedly come to the rescue of a sinking ship. Here, where a change is most needed, the enactments of the committee offer no relief, but act rather in preventing the beneficial results hoped for, and the control will be the same after December 18 as now.

With a system of representation on the board of directors elected by the membership in States or localities, proxies absolutely prohibited, and voting wholly in person or by mail, the policyholders located in a State or locality from which the company has withdrawn or been debarred, would still be enabled to elect their member of the board to guard their interests. The regulations as to how the vote shall be cast, canvassed and returned are mere matters of detail; the essential is a free and full opportunity to exercise the right to vote if desired, without proxies or dangers from combinations or harmful results, and *this the new law does not afford.*

After policyholders once have realized the effect of this legislation and they can get just one more chance at this committee, they probably will be tempted to take more drastic measures than to permit them to stand for re-election to again serve in such capacity, and yet this committee with its past experience and its pangs of conscience at misdirected efforts and injury done would be best to trust with a correction rather than to select a new committee, with no experience, no sins of its own to correct, and liable to go to the other extreme.

There are other and serious objections to the enactments resulting from the Legislative Investigating Committee's recommendations; some fall far short of accomplishment either in relief or remedy, while others seem clearly unconstitutional.

NEW YORK LAWS NOT A GOOD EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW.

When the real evil had once been so glaringly laid bare by that pastmaster of inquisitorial methods it was not necessary for the committee to know the difference between an 'ism and a workable formula involving the intricacies of mathematical life insurance calculations or require the practical experience to judge of the results of application, and while perhaps no one at any time credited the committee with so deep a knowledge of life insurance, there was reason to suppose that for the simple evils shown, simple remedies, easily understood, would be applied.

Yet after the agitation of months, a disorganization of the business, an increasing unrest among policyholders and a growing suspicion of the public in general, legislatures expectant, and the people waiting for the heralded relief and remedy, we are offered this code as the panacea, and *this* as an authoritative expression of the opinion of the committee why it should be enacted without delay:

"What could we do? Only that which, with our limited knowledge, seemed to be fair. And let me tell you that the Armstrong Committee feels that its knowledge of the insurance business is exceedingly limited. Under these circumstances we prepared our bills, knowing that they were imperfect, and that by the first of next year the companies would have so adjusted themselves to the new conditions that bills amending the insurance laws passed by this Legislature would be submitted, which will rectify any mistakes we have made."

True, the New York Legislature will meet again next year, but in the meantime companies cannot have adjusted themselves to these mistakes, and these laws will have gone out through this country as a standard to follow by other legislatures, at least equally as well versed on life insurance, only to burden their own companies.

The results of this investigation have placed New York life insurance companies in a straight jacket to be discriminated against, without offering the surest remedy for the real evil, and

instead of promoting the organization of new companies will cause or hasten the failure or reinsurance of some, which with proper regulations could have been saved.

The San Francisco Disaster from a London and Lancashire Company Point of View.

We printed in our issue of last week a summary of the annual home office report of the London and Lancashire Fire insurance company, presented at the forty-fourth general meeting of the shareholders at Liverpool on April 25. The San Francisco fire was the cause of an unusual attendance of shareholders, interested in learning the effect it would have on the fortunes of the company. The following are extracts from the very interesting address of the chairman of the directors, Mr. E. H. Harrison:

This is a momentous occasion. The fire insurance business of the world has been shaken to its foundations, and, as chairman of this company, I can only say from my heart that, although the blow is heavy enough to the directors and myself, we wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the shareholders and all connected with the company. And yet, only a short week ago, I could have come before you without a cloud in our sky to report that 1905 had been the most brilliant year in the history of the company. I will not dwell upon this, as you have the figures before you. Our fire account surpassed all previous records, and our accident business was entirely satisfactory. In all, we made over £300,000 clear underwriting profit, and at least £130,000 of this came from the North American continent. This profit we placed almost intact to the enhancement of our reserves.

These reserves are now altered, and, looking at the matter from the most severe point of view, we shall probably revert to the position which we occupied seven years ago. During those seven years we have made over £1,100,000 profit on our underwriting, and have added an equal amount to our funds. It simply means, gentlemen, that, to provide for this great emergency, we now use the money which we have been putting by during those years, and I am sure we cannot feel too thankful that we have made that money in such a short time, and that we have deliberately put it by to our reserves.

This catastrophe, in its origin and in its immensity, has been quite beyond all reasonable human calculations. San Francisco has been for many years past the most prosperous and wealthy city on the Pacific Coast, with a magnificent harbor and trade and relations with the whole world. It has been a favorite place for insurance companies. The rates have almost without exception been maintained at a high figure, and it has often been our reflection that, when the rest of the United States was poor, the Pacific Coast was the one bright spot. We commenced operating there in 1879, and have ever since transacted a large and successful business, yielding steady profits. Indeed, I may say that the surplus on our underwriting in San Francisco for the last fifteen years has been nearly 30 per cent. on the premiums.

You will understand, therefore, that business was competed for keenly, and we, at the time of this catastrophe had—chiefly in consequence of this very competition—an appreciably smaller business than we used to have ten or fifteen years ago. That there was a conflagration hazard was recognized by all underwriters, but we have had the most exhaustive reports made from time to time by our best experts, and it was considered that a fire, if it were not nipped in the bud, could, without much difficulty, have been confined within reasonable proportions.

Imagine a town half the size of Liverpool, with almost the whole of the city proper of massive construction, and with two great fire breaks miles long formed by Market street and Van Ness avenue, each having a width of approximately 120 feet. And then realize what the fire protection was when I tell you that there were in San Francisco no less than forty fire brigade stations, all in intimate communication with each other, and having in the aggregate something like sixty fire engines.

But it is always the unexpected that happens, and human foresight could scarcely have imagined that a great earthquake could have occurred, with the result that the whole system was rendered useless by the instantaneous rupture of the mains and the consequent destruction of the water supply Nothing in modern history could have made us suppose that such an event, in its awful completeness, was possible. We must take some risks, and if we were to be always calculating upon contingencies as remote as this, why then it would mean withdrawing into our shell, and by such a policy we could never have become a great company with an unlimited future.

I am sure, therefore, gentlemen, you will look at the matter bravely and philosophically. It was not reasonable to expect that we could continue to make such extraordinary profits as we have been making during recent years. I have said more than once that fire insurance business is no bonanza, that we have our risks all the time, and at almost every spot on the face of the globe, and that we must be prepared to pay our losses, however large, when they come. A week ago our reserve stood at the handsome figure of £2,157,735. Half of this has now gone, but we have the other half still untouched, and in addition our good will—a good will, as you know, of great value. There is no damage to our prestige, and if we have done so well in the past, you can fairly and logically reason out what we hope to do in the future. The conditions of fire insurance business all over the world are good, and this disaster affords the most ample justification for the necessity of all the companies holding together and requiring such rates of premium as will provide for the undoubted risks which we run, and which are just as present in the heart of the City of London as they are in distant quarters of the globe. The battle is to the strong, and those who can deal with this occurrence without flinching are the companies which will gain the most benefit from what has taken place.

After the conclusion of the proceedings an extraordinary general meeting followed, which is reported in the London *Post Magazine* thus:

An extraordinary general meeting followed for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit passing, certain resolutions for increasing the authorized capital of the company to £3,000,000 by the creation of 20,000 new shares of £25 each, ranking pari passu with the 100,000 shares of £25 each, forming the present capital of the company; also for substituting a memorandum and articles of association, with extended objects as therein set forth, for the company's deed of settlement dated the 10th day of December, 1861, and supplemental deeds, etc.

The chairman, in moving the resolutions, said that the notice which the shareholders had received gave a pretty clear idea of what was proposed to be passed, viz., that, instead of their present deed of settlement and supplemental resolutions and addenda, they should have a memorandum and articles of association on modern lines. The revision had, of course, been a considerable undertaking, and in making it they had endeavored to word all their objects, powers and articles as clearly and specifically as possible, so that everything could be referred to easily. At the same time the directors had thought it well to incorporate in this new document an increase in the authorized capital from £2,500,000 to £3,000,000, as, while the directors had no intention of exceeding the present authorized capital, it was conceivable that special circumstances might arise making it desirable to do so.

Mr. E. F. Callister asked if the new shares were to be allocated to the present shareholders.

The Chairman—We shall just stand as we are. We are not going to issue the shares.

The resolutions were then unanimously agreed to, and the proceedings terminated.

National Board of Fire Underwriters' Fortieth Annual Meeting.

The National Board of Fire Underwriters convened for its fortieth annual meeting on Thursday in the rooms of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, Mutual Life Building. President John H. Washburn called the meeting to order at 11 o'clock, and after roll call read his annual address.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

A year ago your president called the attention of the board to the unprecedented losses of the companies during the year 1904 and to the steps to guard against the recurring of disastrous conflagrations not only in the largest cities of the country but in those of smaller size as well. The examination of the situation made by the surveyors and engineers employed for this service developed a more threatening condition of things than had been anticipated, few towns of importance being found without congested points where a conflagration could easily gather headway. Fire departments and water supply, upon which communities had relied with confidence, were found inefficient and insufficient, while the people at large felt a sense of security altogether unwarranted by existing conditions. The efforts of the National Board have done something to arouse the public to a sense of its danger, but it is slow to appreciate it, and even after a great disaster soon falls back into apathy. Some improvements

have been made, but far less than might have been hoped for after the expenditure of so much effort and money.

However, in spite of such discouragements, the companies experienced in 1905 a year almost as exceptional for its profits as 1904 was for its losses. The business was larger in volume, and the percentage of loss was smaller, so that nearly all the companies showed a net gain from their underwriting. Add to this an advance in the price of securities, and there were very few companies that could not make a satisfactory statement at the close of the year.

Although the early months of 1906 showed an increase of losses, many of the companies encouraged by the success of the preceding year made considerable efforts to increase their premium receipts, even showing a disposition to relax the safeguards which had proved a necessity and to yield more or less to the popular demand for a reduction in rates. On the 18th day of April, however, came a rude awakening from the dream of security. The earthquake, which destroyed a large portion of the prosperous city of San Francisco, not only caused a multitude of fires by the derangement of electric wires and heating apparatus, but by the breaking of innumerable gas pipes furnished food for the fires, while the disruption of the water mains cut off the entire water supply and rendered futile all attempts to stay the spread of the flames. The disaster was one which no human foresight could have prevented, and which even a better construction could have done but little to mitigate, and is a warning not only to underwriters but to all men that there are dangers against which we cannot guard by the utmost care and vigilance.

Happily in the face of this, the greatest calamity that has ever befallen us, the insurance companies are much better prepared to meet their losses than they have ever been before, and the sufferers by fire will experience less loss by the failure of their underwriters than in any of the great conflagrations which heretofore visited this country. The calamity is so recent that the amount of loss in the aggregate or to the individual companies is not yet known, but we have reason to believe that most of the companies will weather the storm, and that policyholders will recover their losses with few or no exceptions.

The work of the Committee of Twenty, which was inaugurated immediately after the Baltimore fire, has been continued to the present, as will appear from the report of that committee.

The executive committee will recommend to this board that the work of the Committee of Twenty be joined with that of the standing committee on fire department and water supply, and that the consolidated committee under the title of the Committee on Fire Protection shall have entire charge of the work. The board no doubt will approve the proposed plan, and will then decide upon the proper appropriation for carrying on the work.

In this connection it is proper to call your attention once more to the steadily increasing expense of local boards, inspection bureaus and rating associations, as shown by the following figures.

President Washburn's figures showed that the total expenses of these organizations in the last five years were successively as follows: 1901, $1,994,867; 1902, $2,626,748; 1903, $2,927,934; 1904, $3,176,317; 1905, $3,353,644. The president mentioned that under the instructions of the National Board last year he appointed a special committee to devise ways and means to effect a reform.

A record was made of the deaths during the year of Frederick M. Lloyd, George B. Chandler, Edward B. Clark, Thomas Goodman, William H. Cheney, Robert H. Wass, Major Livingston Mims, Charles A. Fuller, Henry H. Hall, Sam P. Blagden and James Pulsford. The president, continuing, said:

Mr. Pulsford has for many years been on the retired list, and was little known to the younger underwriters. Mr. Hall, my immediate predecessor in the presidency of this board, will be long remembered by all connected with it. The executive committee has appointed a committee to present a minute in regard to these two gentlemen.

Mr. Blagden's death occurred since the last meeting of the executive committee, and consequently they were not able to take any action in regard to it, but he has been so prominently identified with underwriting for so many years that the board may think it wise to prepare some minute respecting his death. * *

And now will you pardon a personal word on laying down the office with which you have twice honored me and closing my active connection with fire underwriting. For nearly fifty years I have been identified with the business in this city and throughout the land, and my association with underwriting has been close and intimate. For all the kindness and consideration I have experienced at your hands I thank you, and I can truly say that I do not believe that in any profession there can be found a larger proportion of honest, intelligent, honorable men than among the fire underwriters of America. That it may so continue for all time the National Board is giving its best efforts, and in that endeavor it deserves the unlimited support of all who are eligible to its membership.

The usual tables are included in the appendix. Tables A and B are given.

TABLE A.

FIRE UNDERWRITING RESULTS, 1905.

EXPERIENCE OF 158 JOINT STOCK FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES, AMERICAN AND FOREIGN, REPORTING TO THE NEW YORK INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

Premiums—fire, marine and inland	$223,019,881	.....
Losses paid—fire, marine and inland	.....	$108,171,784
Increase in liabilities during the year (outstanding losses, unearned premiums and all other claims)	.....	15,251,434
Actual expenses	.....	82,346,361
Profit 7 73-100 per cent. of premiums	.....	17,250,302
Totals	$223,019,881	$223,019,881

TEN YEARS, 1896 TO 1905, INCLUSIVE.

Premiums—fire, marine and inland	$1,640,615,042	
Losses paid	.....	$918,995,243
Increase in liabilities during the period (outstanding losses, uncarned premiums and all other claims)	.....	93,302,253
Actual expenses	.....	612,244,290
Profit for the period 98-100 per ccnt. of premiums	.....	16,073,256
Totals	$1,640,615,042	$1,640,615,042

TABLE B.

TAXATION OF FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

SHOWING THE RATIOS OF TAXES TO PREMIUMS AND OF TAXES TO PREMIUMS LESS LOSSES. COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL FIGURES OF ALL COMPANIES REPORTING TO THE NEW YORK STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

Years.	No. of Cos.	Premiums, Including Marine and Inland.	Losses Paid, Including Marine and Inland.	Ratio of Taxes to Prems. Prem.	Ratio of Taxes to Prems. Less Losses.
1891	129	$110,561,043	$69,007,452	2.35	6.25
1892	130	124,086,350	78,334,159	2.20	5.96
1893	127	127,958,537	87,943,433	2.31	7.40
1894	121	124,649,370	76,059,189	2.27	5.82
1895	121	124,508,829	70,732,994	2.36	5.47
1896	134	124,440,058	67,162,474	2.53	5.49
1897	152	126,764,778	63,623,107	2.61	5.26
1898	162	127,730,726	74,660,521	3.05	7.34
1899	162	134,450,638	91,031,677	3.34	10.35
1900	158	146,263,565	92,472,967	3.21	8.57
1901	146	163,526,207	96,363,509	2.83	6.88
1902	145	185,494,632	97,950,790	2.67	5.65
1903	147	196,532,866	96,834,018	2.78	5.49
1904	144	212,391,691	131,095,629	2.63	6.86
1905	158	223,019,881	108,171,784	2.84	5.51

From the above it will be seen that—

In 1891 there was a loss of $9,218,797 when a tax was paid of $2,596,902

1892	"	"	"	6,377,489	"	"	" 2,727,974
1893	"	"	"	10,410,102	"	"	" 2,961,571
1898	"	"	"	1,919,650	"	"	" 3,900,134
1899	"	"	"	18,428,693	"	"	" 4,495,332
1900	"	"	"	6,277,994	"	"	" 4,736,250
1901	"	"	"	8,941,703	"	"	" 4,621,006
1904	"	"	"	10,216,440	"	"	" 5,577,225

Mr. C. G. Smith, chairman of the committee on construction of buildings, reported that the model building code which had been prepared under its supervision had been widely distributed, with the result that it has met with general approval, especially of engineers, architects, builders and other practical people having to do with building construction. The committee was gratified to announce that it had been informed of many cities and towns where the code has been made the basis of new building laws or of an intelligent revision of existing ordinances. The committee said:

The entire code needs to be carefully and constantly watched and bettered as future experience may, and undoubtedly will, teach, but perhaps in no particular is more care and attention demanded than in the matters relating to concrete construction and artificial mixtures. Your committee is of the opinion that until the merits of concrete construction are more firmly established it will be unwise to make any change in our code.

The committee on fire departments, fire patrols and water supply reported through Chairman George W. Hoyt that In-

spector Johnson had made reports on thirty-two cities since the last annual meeting, besides visiting a number of other places on request, to give expert opinion as to fire protection facilities.

Chairman G. A. Van Allen, of the committee on incendiarism and arson, said in part:

There were 128 rewards offered during the year, amounting to $34,750. Five were paid aggregating $1,500. Since the fund was first subscribed in 1872 there have been 271 rewards paid, amounting to $81,219, resulting in 386 convictions, and 5,558 offered, aggregating to $1,853,950.

As there is a balance of $7,844.04 remaining in the fund, no assessment will be required at this meeting.

The committee recommended that no reward offered after this date be paid to any chief of police or other public officer or to any public official, and that notification to this effect shall accompany each reward offered in the future.

The report of the committee on lighting, heating and patents was read. The reports of the underwriters' laboratories, the consulting engineers and the Underwriters' National Electric Association were appended, with details of the various rules and devices approved. The underwriters' laboratory work was specially commended, and the same appropriation for that work as last year, $12,000, recommended. One thousand dollars was recommended for the consulting engineers, $1,500 for the National Fire Protection Association and $1,000 for the Underwriters' National Electrical Association.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS AND ORIGIN OF FIRES.

Mr. Babb read the report of the committee on statistics and origin of fires, which was in part as follows:

Your committee would be disposed this year simply to submit the figures without comment for the study of those interested in them, except that certain facilities have been afforded by the United States Government to compare the results with those in foreign cities. A letter was addressed last year to the State Department, transmitting a copy of our blank and asking whether similar statistics of foreign cities could not be obtained through consuls. The Government in return forwarded the request to consuls, and the result is given in Special Consular Report No. XXXVIII, entitled "Insurance in Foreign Countries," published in 1905. It is to be regretted that our suggestion, that the statistics be for a quinquennial period, could not be complied with, except in one or two instances. In nearly all the cases the statistics were for 1904. Only European cities reported, although the request was also made of consuls in leading cities of South and Central America and a few in Asia and Africa having characteristics to some extent in common with American cities.

The tabulation includes forty-three cities of Europe. Only thirty of these gave the loss, which may be assumed to be the insurance loss, as there appears to be no data of losses not covered by insurance. The remarkably low average is shown of 61 cents loss per capita against $3.10 in the five years' average of 252 American cities. In the European average of 61 cents is included the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia, with an average of $1.32 and $1.42, respectively, and if we eliminate these two we should have a still lower average per capita for the remaining twenty-eight cities.

Certainly our own per capita loss when thus compared is most striking and alarming, and while, on the one hand, it explains the higher rates of premium which must of necessity be charged here, on the other hand, it points unmistakably to the remedies which should be applied to check the waste—such as improved methods of building construction added to the greatest care and the use of the best known facilities for protection against fire.

Taking the number of fires to each 1,000 population in the same cities, we find it is 4.05 in the American cities as against .86 in those of Europe, showing that in point of frequency, fires have are far in excess of those abroad, which would seem to indicate a general lack of care in the United States, perhaps on the part of all classes. Practically all fires are confined to the buildings or place of origin in the European cities, as will be seen from the table and the extracts from the reports given below.

Your committee, however, desired to go further than to present these facts as to fires in cities. The chairman was asked by a prominent underwriter, called upon to address a commercial body, for proofs of the statement so often made that the United States leads all countries in the amount of its fire loss in proportion to the population, and it was found that while all underwriters were convinced of that fact, no one had the figures to substantiate it. Accordingly, the Government was again addressed, and on advice of the Bureau of Statistics in Washington a request was sent by us direct to the consuls, asking for the amount of the total loss in each country, and if that could not be stated, then for the insurance loss for a period of five years. Up to this writing, we can only give the result in the six countries named in the following table:

Country.	Years.	Fire Loss Annual Average.	Population 1901.	Loss Per Capita.
Austria	1898-1902	$7,601,389	26,150,597	$0.29
Denmark	1901	660,924	2,588,919	.26
France	1900-1904	11,699,275	38,595,500	.30
Germany	1902	27,655,600	56,367,178	.49
Italy	1901-1904	4,112,725	32,449,754	.12
Switzerland	1901-1903	999,364	3,325,023	.30

Or an average loss per capita of $0.33.

Now, compare this with the official reports from the States of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Ohio, statistics which are in a table accompanying this report:

State.	Five Years.	Fire Loss Average.	Population.	Loss Per Capita.
Maine	1901-5	$2,240,158	694,647	$3.22
Massachusetts	1901-5	6,285,891	2,844,068	2.21
New Hampshire	1901-5	1,174,061	411,588	2.85
Ohio	1901-5	7,502,561	4,157,545	1.80

Giving an average of $2.12 loss per capita.

Again, the total loss in the United States, as reported in the *Chronicle* tables and by the *Journal of Commerce,* was $866,617,705 for the five years ending with 1905, or an average of $173,323,541 per annum, which, upon a population basis of 70,000,000, gives a per capita loss of $2.47.

Thus it would appear from all of the statistics available that the per capita loss in the United States is appallingly greater than in any other country, whether the comparison be by cities or by countries. Your committee has gone thus fully into the subject because it is due to the public that the facts be known. The results may also afford material for use before legislative committees, or eleswhere, to show that there are basic reasons for high rates of premium in the United States which are inherent in the character of the business and its surrounding conditions.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following officers of the National Board were elected for the following year: President, George W. Burchell, of the Queen; vice president, J. Montgomery Hare, of the Norwich Union; secretary, Charles G. Smith, of the German American; treasurer, Marshall S. Driggs, of the Williamsburgh City. For members of the executive committee to fill vacancies the following were elected: A. S. Damon, V. C. Crosby, E. H. A. Correa and George F. Reger.

Treasurer Driggs reported a balance of $26,813 in his accounts.

Mr. Henry Evans, chairman of the Committee of Twenty, submitted the report of the committee, reviewing the work accomplished by it the past year. Of the examination of the needs of the smaller cities he said:

They cannot afford to make investigations of their own similar to those of the National Board. If they could they could not secure experts with the cumulated experience in all lines possessed by the National Board, backed by the experience of insurance companies. In such cities all municipal departments affecting the fire hazard are inadequate to meet the needs of cities developing under the peculiar conditions of growth found in America.

Such departments as they have are in a stage of development and need direction. The fact must not be lost sight of that while present conditions will be outgrown the effect of the present recommendations will be lasting, a standard for all future work being made. The above being true, underwriters are in a position to place themselves in a proper light before the public, and by the expenditure of a nominal sum in each city now, save much in the future.

The report of the executive committee, recommending the consolidation of the work of the committee of fifteen with that of the standing committee on fire departments and water supply, under the title of the committee on fire protection, was received. The executive committee recommended that $60,000 be appropriated for the work of the new committee during the ensuing year.

Mr. Evans offered an amendment, providing that the amount appropriated be $90,000. Mr. Burchell offered a counter amend-

(*Continued on page 372.*)

Life Insurance Business in West Virginia in 1905.

Companies.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Incurred.
Ætna	$284,368	$2,233,480	$78,932	$34,200
Columbian National	50,000	110,500	2,004	.....
Connecticut Mutual	64,500	370,314	6,450	15,001
Des Moines, Des Moines	59,680	286,680	9,285	.....
Equitable, N. Y.	1,171,257	11,693,061	389,070	59,221
Equitable Industrial, D. C.	426,882	461,499	16,680	4,638
Fidelity Mutual	315,866	2,145,079	73,257	7,030
Germania	67,903	373,362	13,554	.....
Home, New York	452,415	1,806,704	66,419	15,100
John Hancock	858,700	3,081,836	97,903	19,242
Life Ins. Co. of Virginia	81,891	300,608	13,623	6,726
Manhattan	321,130	897,948	30,840	.....
Maryland, Baltimore	15,500	236,399	7,234	6,579
Metropolitan	1,856,248	1,958,575	276,087	55,073
Michigan, Mutual	134,076	713,065	25,395	5,000
Mutual Life, New York	1,206,255	7,146,405	325,104	98,684
Mutual Benefit	343,636	2,365,963	80,918	20,141
National, Vt.	167,929	2,813,332	94,956	31,500
New England Mutual	28,500	322,424	9,688	4,000
New York Life	1,881,419	11,726,649	380,748	63,731
Northwestern Mutual	259,000	2,487,254	60,316	29,333
Pacific Mutual	71,650	135,273	5,457	.....
Penn Mutual	405,418	2,329,403	71,806	16,500
Phœnix Mutual	121,910	802,635	30,804	7,816
Provident L. & T.	11,020	272,920	13,430	28,000
Provident Savings	202,728	461,631	46,474	4,585
Prudential, Newark	2,130,132	3,344,904	223,880	32,072
Pittsburgh L. & T.	88,550	135,850	6,506	200
Reliance Life	153,000	206,000	8,562	.....
Royal Union	64,933	112,538	3,704	1,000
Security Mutual	136,454	409,651	12,048	.....
Security Trust and Life	81,189	124,947	3,593	4,500
Security L. & A., Va.	556,000	944,500	36,558	.....
South Atlantic	21,500	50,500	2,021	.....
State Life, Indianapolis	599,518	1,134,838	37,463	3,000
Travelers	116,500	751,816	20,332	1,936
Union Central	340,000	1,307,964	29,102	9,762
Union Mutual	398,103	1,208,237	45,928	2,012
United States	29,000	244,880	7,946	1,000
Washington	452,402	1,044,382	40,972	11,842
Totals, 1905	$16,027,162	$68,554,006	$2,705,050	$599,425
" 1904	16,918,676	63,716,147	2,569,030	610,269
" 1903	16,441,139	57,802,721	2,231,221	486,652
" 1902	13,903,538	49,307,969	1,892,213	580,300
" 1901	16,374,312	42,082,662	1,587,520	315,897
" 1900	9,812,966	35,402,693	1,239,025	334,603
" 1899	12,877,674	31,618,698	1,133,858	318,100
" 1898	11,407,598	27,582,979	907,292	272,906
" 1897	6,714,110	24,301,000	750,171	269,905

Industrial business is included in the above.

Fire Insurance Business in New Mexico in 1905.

(Compiled from the Report of the Superintendent of Insurance.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen & Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$173,875	$3,197	$2,091
Aetna, Hartford	492,227	9,533	4,424
American Central, St. Louis	509,938	9,452	2,662
Atlas, London	510,317	9,708	4,625
British American, Toronto	618,638	11,285	3,661
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	67,004	2,047	.....
Continental, New York	412,348	6,789	170
Commercial Union, London	290,750	6,020	731
Fire Association of Philadelphia	718,060	14,863	6,519
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	1,843,041	35,948	16,961
Germania Fire, New York	323,369	6,289	983
German American, New York	1,018,647	15,688	1,824
Hartford Fire, Hartford	2,055,592	35,799	15,720
Home Fire and Marine, San Francisco	267,228	4,438	562
Insurance Company of N. America	888,876	18,551	7,734
Liverpool and London and Globe	1,874,034	27,044	6,193
London Assurance Corporation	115,175	2,565	.....
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	381,970	7,885	2,908
National Fire, Hartford	1,296,915	22,156	9,567
Niagara Fire, New York	645,386	11,668	1,770
N. British and Mercantile, London	856,851	12,367	3,651
Northern, London	546,571	8,662	4,456
Norwich Union, Norwich	528,435	9,930	5,050
Orient, Hartford	284,515	5,706	1,231
Palatine, London	752,526	15,277	3,631
Royal, Liverpool	1,403,385	29,604	6,620
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	6,929	14,100	4,028
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	1,782,546	24,380	6,871
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	497,549	7,152	3,813
Union, London	247,315	466	36
Totals, 1905	$21,410,012	$388,569	$128,491
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$18,168,625	$323,225	$201,696
1903	17,616,631	338,053	125,768
1902	15,550,168	270,309	87,440
1901	13,397,665	231,483	104,420
1900	11,211,620	216,477	101,450
1899	11,948,084	210,187	163,583
1898	8,956,471	168,355	120,047
1897	8,808,460	168,507	70,986
1896	7,632,398	154,663	67,924
1895	7,766,362	149,452	66,520
1894	7,302,979	147,579	80,015
1893	8,961,658	180,021	174,387
1892	8,840,984	167,847	87,780
1891	7,420,522	147,189	60,438
1880 to 1890	56,913,295	1,208,502	677,435

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 60.0. The percentage in 1905 was 33.1.

(Continued from page 371.)

ment, reducing the proposed appropriation to $35,000. These motions led to a long discussion in which Mr. Evans was supported by Mr. Shallcross and Mr. Hare, and the smaller appropriation was advocated by Mr. Correa, of the Home. The discussion was finally ended by the defeat of both amendments and the adoption of the original recommendation of the executive committee. The report of the executive committee was then accepted.

Advance of Rates and Reduction of Brokerages in the Congested District by the New York Fire Insurance Exchange.

At a meeting of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange, held May 4, the special committee appointed at the previous meeting to consider the situation caused by the Pacific Coast losses made a report through its chairman, Colonel A. H. Wray, of the Commercial Union, recommending certain rate advances and reductions in brokerages. Objection was made to the report by Mr. Evans, of the Continental, but it was favored by Messrs. Correa, of the Home, and Shallcross, of the Royal, Colonel Wray and others, and the following statement and resolutions were adopted with but two dissenting votes:

At a meeting today of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange the report of the special committee appointed a week ago to consider the situation following the San Francisco conflagration was received and the following preamble and resolution was adopted:

Whereas, The recent overwhelming conflagration in San Francisco, following so closely upon the severe conflagrations in Baltimore, Toronto, Paterson and Jacksonville, has undoubtedly crippled a number of fire insurance companies, and has seriously reduced the surplus of many others; and

Whereas, The protection to policyholders and the welfare of the mercantile community of the United States is largely dependent upon the financial stability of the fire insurance companies; therefore

Resolved, That for the protection of policyholders and of the whole mercantile community and for the upbuilding of reserves of the fire insurance companies, that they may be prepared to meet future conflagrations, the following reductions in expenses and increases of rates shall take effect in the territory of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange from and after the passage of this resolution.

The economies are effected by reducing all brokerage and commission on all general business to 10 per cent., except on "affidavit risks," the brokerage on which is reduced to 7½ per cent., and on other classes of business the brokerage is reduced by 5 per cent.

The advances in rates were the rescinding of the reductions which had been promulgated in December, 1903, and such advance on the former rates as, taken together, amount to a 25 per cent. advance in the conflagration section between Chambers and New Chambers streets on the south and Fourteenth street on the north, excepting risks protected by automatic sprinklers and fireproof risks, which latter showed such marked resistance to fire and shock in San Francisco. Outside of the section named there were other advances ranging from 10 per cent. on various classes of risks up to 25 per cent. on piers.

The adoption of these resolutions was followed on May 5 by the withdrawal of the Continental insurance company from the Exchange, and the resignation of its president, Henry Evans, as vice president of that body. The official announcement of the

withdrawal was made in the two following communications, each addressed to C. F. Shallcross, president of the Exchange:

New York, May 5, 1906.

Dear Sir—The Exchange agreement, Section 23, reads: "Any member may withdraw from this Exchange on giving thirty days' notice in writing to the president of the Exchange of his intention to do so. * * Notices of resignation shall be immediately communicated to all the members."

In accordance with this provision I notify you of the resignation of this company, its membership in the organization ceasing with the beginning of Tuesday, June 5, 1906.

This step is necessary because of resolutions adopted at the meeting held May 4, resulting in large and unwarranted rate advances, based not upon the hazard underwritten but upon the desire to make insurers in New York (and, as was stated by those in control of the meeting, other cities) pay for the San Francisco conflagration. This action is contrary to the Exchange agreement, which declares, in paragraph F, Section 13: "Rates of premium shall be adjusted upon a discriminating basis which recognizes merits and faults of construction, fire extinguishing appliances and percentage of insurance to value."

Yours very truly, The Continental Insurance Company,
By Henry Evans, President.

New York, May 5, 1906.

Dear Sir—On further reflection I have come to the conclusion that the action taken at the special meeting of the Fire Insurance Exchange, held yesterday, is in direct violation of the agreement, and I have to notify you that the Continental insurance company will not be bound by such action, but will transact its business as if such meeting had not been held.

My reasons for such decision are to be found in Section 13 (e), the provisions of which have not been complied with:

"The committee on rates shall recommend ratings to the Exchange, when, if the same are adopted by a vote of 90 per cent. of the members present and voting at a meeting regularly called, they shall become operative; and to change a rate once established, a vote of 90 per cent. of the members present and voting at a meeting called shall be required."

Yours very truly, The Continental Insurance Company,
By Henry Evans, President.

A letter was also sent to President Shallcross by Marshall S. Driggs, president of the Williamsburgh City fire insurance company, protesting against the action of the Exchange as a violation of the membership agreement, and predicting that any attempt to enforce it upon members would tend to the rupture of the Exchange.

Under date of May 8, President Shallcross issued a circular to members of the Exchange defending the legality of the proceedings of May 4.

The Exchange met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 9. A letter was received from President Evans, of the Continental, withdrawing the company's resignation, stating that this was done on advice of counsel, and because there was reason to believe that the matters objected to would be considered at the regular monthly meeting. He announced that his counsel, Messrs. Alton B. Parker and David Rumsey, were of the opinion that the action of the Exchange in advancing rates in accordance with the resolutions adopted on May 4 was illegal, in that the Exchange was organized for the purpose of regulating local business, as affected by local conditions and not by outside events, such as the San Francisco fire. Counsel in their opinion said:

Such being the case, we are of the opinion that an increase in rates, based upon the proposition that the surplus reserves of the various companies should be increased and not upon the proposition that local conditions require the increase for the purpose of an adequate and just establishment of the relation between premiums and risks in the area to which the agreement applies, is beyond the scope of the agreement and cannot be sanctioned by its authority, and if it be intended that a change of rates, based upon other considerations, shall be made, the agreement should be modified as provided by Section 24. This has not been done.

At the meeting of Thursday President Evans moved to amend the minutes of the meeting of May 4, so as to have the record read that without waiving his rights or establishing a precedent he had withdrawn his objection to the action taken. This motion was defeated by an almost unanimous vote.

President Driggs moved that the action of the Exchange in advancing rates on May 4 be rescinded. This was also voted down by an equally decisive vote.

The Exchange adjourned without taking action on the communications of Messrs. Evans and Driggs.

The brokers had a conference with officers of the Exchange on Thursday and submitted a counter proposition.

The Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation
(LIMITED),
OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

Total Available Resources, over $8,000,000

$2,661,516.09 deposited in the United States for the benefit of United States Policyholders.

SAMUEL APPLETON, United States Manager,
Employers' Liability Building, 33 Broad Street, Boston, Mass.
EDMUND DWIGHT,
Resident Manager for New York State,
76 William Street, New York.

1825. THE 1906.
Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N.Y.
Established 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$2,960,364
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,603,103
Joint Stock Capital	500,000

INCORPORATED 1865.
GERMAN INSURANCE CO.
OF FREEPORT, ILL.
The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$6,148,738
Cash Capital	200,000
Liabilities, including reinsurance	3,996,673
Net Surplus	1,952,065

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

QUEEN
Ins. Co. of America.
New York.

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 12 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Milwaukee.

ASSETS, $151,663,477.29

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1905 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $105.83 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1905:

395 per day in number of Claims Paid.
6,972 per day in number of Policies issued.
$1,502,484 per day in New Insurance Written.
$123,788.29 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.
$77,275.94 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks.	$79,629,477.18
Bonds and Mortgages..	38,062,610.75
Real Estate.....	17,495,905.30
Cash	4,183,912.16
Demand Loans on Collateral	3,747,285.50
Loans to Policyholders.	3,703,554.50
Prem. deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,826,755.63
Accrued Int., Rents, etc.	1,013,976.27
Total	$151,663,477.29

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves.....	$132,705,296.00
All other Liabilities.....	2,776,602.33
Capital and Surplus....	16,181,578.96
Total	$151,663,477.29

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security..... $318,264,084.12

Number of Policies in Force, 8,596,705.

Amount of Outstanding Insurance.....$1,596.509,769.00

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice President.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di.
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di.
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

CONSERVATIVE
PROGRESSIVE
FAITHFUL

¶ Some of the cardinal aims of the *Union Mutual* management are—to be conservative in the choice of investments—to be progressive in the prosecution of the business—to be faithful to the interests of policyholders.

Agents of like inclination cordially welcomed.

Union Mutual Life Ins. Co.

Portland, Maine

FRED E. RICHARDS, *Pres.* ARTHUR L. BATES, *Vice-Pres.*

For Territory address either

EDSON D. SCOFIELD, Superintendent, 180 Broadway, N. Y. City.
THORNTON CHASE, Superintendent, 84 Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

CHARTERED 1866.

Hartford Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

Up to date in business methods—in contracts—in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.

$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.

Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.

INVESTIGATE.

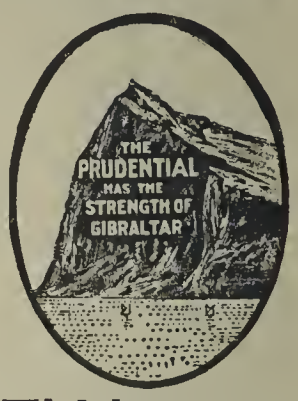
YOUNG MEN MAKE MONEY

There are opportunities to represent a big, sound, up-to-date Life Insurance Company in a profitable manner.

Prudential representatives make money. They have most varied forms of policies and advantageous contracts, with liberal commissions.

The attention of young men, particularly young men starting in business, is especially sought.

Write for full information regarding these unusual opportunities.



THE PRUDENTIAL

INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey.

JOHN F. DRYDEN, President Home Office, Newark, N. J.

The Mutual Benefit

LIFE INSURANCE CO.

NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

Assets (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1906.....	$99,127,140
Liabilities	91,548,087
Surplus	7,576,303

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

Bankers Life Insurance Company
of the City of New York.
Foster M. Voorhees, President.
Issues the most liberal policies,
Offers the best renewal contracts to Agents of
Standing and Responsibility.
For particulars apply
Home Office, 31 Nassau St., N. Y. City.

GERMANIA
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
NEW YORK.
ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE
Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

London Assurance Corporation,
CHARTERED A. D. 1720.

Surplus in United States January 1, 1906, $857,681.75.

CHAS. LYMAN CASE, Manager.
61 Pine Street, NEW YORK.

For a DEFINITE PROMISE to PAY, well defined, no experiment and taking no chances that technical legal definitions of what constitutes an accident will be used to defeat claims, BUY YOUR INSURANCE in and SELL the policies of

"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.

For particulars address **The Central Accident Ins. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

Insurance Co. of North America,
232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906		$13,015,852
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,389,121	
Capital Stock	3,000,000	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,731	$13,015,852

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary.
EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

THE Fidelity and Casualty Company,
97-103 CEDAR STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

Assets, $7,683,067.93.
Capital and Surplus, $2,986,463.85.
Losses Paid to January 1, 1906, $21,742.060.27.

This Company grants Insurance as follows:
Bonds of Suretyship for persons in positions of trust,
Fidelity Bonds, Burglary, Plate Glass,
Steam Boiler, Flywheel, Employers',
Public, Teams, Workmen's Collective,
Elevator and General Liability;
Personal Accident, Health and
Bonded Attorneys' List.

OFFICERS:
GEORGE F. SEWARD, President,
ROBERT J. HILLAS, Vice-President-Secretary.
HENRY CROSSLEY, Assistant Secretary.
FRANK E. LAW, Second Assistant Secretary.
GEORGE W. ALLEN, Third Assistant Secretary.

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY
OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.
NEW YORK OFFICE:
68 WILLIAM STREET.

Atlas Assurance Company, Limited, of London

ESTABLISHED 1808

SAN FRANCISCO CONFLAGRATION

We are still unable to give a reliable estimate of our loss in San Francisco. It may be anywhere from $1,000,000 to $2,000,000 net.

Extract from a recent letter received from London is as follows:

"Our directors have decided to meet all our obligations by this fire by drafts on London, without touching one penny of the funds in the hands of our United States Trustees."

FRANK LOCK, Manager,
100 WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE
Insurance Company.
1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization
A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.

Provident Life and Trust Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. **THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY** invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

SAFETY FUND INSURANCE.

NIAGARA
Fire Insurance Company
OF NEW YORK.

OFFICE:
135 & 137 BROADWAY.

Commercial Union Assurance Co.
LIMITED,
OF LONDON.

OFFICE:
Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1906. No. 20.

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Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

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FURTHER evidence of the futility of the hope that the Supreme Court of the United States will favor Federal supervision of insurance is furnished in the opinion which it rendered this week in the case of the Travelers insurance company, which had disputed the right of the State of Kentucky to revoke its license because it transferred a case to the United States courts. The court by a division of seven to two held that a State may constitutionally prescribe the conditions absolutely upon which it will permit an outside company to transact business within its borders, and such companies can be lawfully excluded unless they conform to those conditions. This affirmation of "State rights" by the court is but a repetition of former decisions extending back uniformly to that of 1869 in the Paul and Virginia case. The claim of the national supervisionists that interstate business conditions have so changed in the past thirty-five years that the Supreme Court would, upon the presentation of the issue anew, recognize the altered relations of the companies to the States and reverse itself, never had a basis outside their yearnings. The power of a State to exclude a non-State company creates an insurmountable barrier to an effort by the Federal Government to compel a State to admit a non-State company engaged in interstate commerce or any kind of commerce, and that knocks the essentials out of national supervision. The Supreme Court stands now where it has always stood on this question.

THE impression that seems to have prevailed when the New York Legislature adopted the provision of the Armstrong bill requiring the publication of lists of policyholders, that it affected only the four purely mutual life insurance companies of the State, was rudely shaken when a closer examination of the clause relating to stock companies, allowing policyholders to vote for directors, was made. The clause reads as follows:

> Where policyholders of any domestic stock life insurance corporation have become or shall become entitled to vote for directors, they shall be entitled to vote in person, by proxy or by mail, as herein provided, and two similar lists of policyholders qualified to vote, in accordance with the charter or bylaws of such corporation, except the holders of industrial policies, shall be filed and maintained in the office of the Superintendent of Insurance at the home office and general agencies by such corporation respectively, similarly arranged and similarly subject to inspection and copy and withdrawal as in the case of mutual corporations, as above provided.

The charters of a number of stock companies, among them the Manhattan, Metropolitan, Germania and Home, contain provisions for policyholders voting under certain limitations, and these companies are constrained also to publish the confidential relations of their policyholders with themselves, and expose their business to their competitors belonging to other States. It might reasonably occur to a company of this class that, in view of the decision of the New York Appellate Division in the Vennor case that the publication of lists of policyholders is a violation of contract, a review of the right of the Legislature to pass the objectionable law might be asked of the courts.

IN the absence of anything like even approximately complete returns of the fire insurance losses at San Francisco, we have hitherto refrained from publishing tabular statements. The official estimate made public this week by the New York State Insurance Department, however, justifies for the first time such a publication, and it appears, therefore, in this issue. The aggregate insurance loss by companies reporting to the New York Department—practically all the companies of importance doing business in California—is placed at $113,441,595. This it will be observed is the net loss. Reinsurances are deducted. Whether it will turn out to be the maximum aggregate loss depends on the ability of those unauthorized foreign companies which took the surplus lines to meet their liabilities. There is reason to believe that some of them will not. On the other hand there will be some salvages. So we apprehend that upon the whole the final settlement will hover in the neighborhood of the New York Insurance Department totals. An examination of the statement reveals the interesting fact that of the 160 companies reporting to the department, 37 companies, being 23 per cent. of the whole in number, reported no losses. The distribution of amount of losses, according to the domiciles of those which suffered, was 16.7 per cent. by New York companies, 39.4 per cent. by other State companies and 43.9 per cent. by companies of foreign countries. The Hartford Fire was the heaviest loser with $5,750,000 to the bad, followed by the London Assurance, $4,000,000; Transatlantic, $4,000,000; Royal, $3,825,000, and Traders of Chicago, $3,748,000. The smallest loser in the list was the Northern of New York with $2,500. That the bulk of the companies will weather the storm is shown by an aggregate policyholders' surplus of over $95,000,000 in excess of the aggregate California losses, and this takes account only of the United States funds of the foreign companies. While the San Francisco fire will have the record as to magnitude of insurance liability, the Chicago fire was a close second. The liability there was in round figures $100,000,000, and the burned policyholders realized about forty per cent. of this. The six British offices involved, to their honor be it remembered, paid nearly in full.

THE cable reports of the terms upon which the North British and Mercantile insurance company proposes to reinsure the British policyholders of the Mutual Life are not definite as to several important particulars. But it is obvious that if the transfer is to be merely a matter of selling policies to the Mutual for their surrender values and buying new insurance in the London company

with the proceeds, the "twisted" policyholders will suffer loss by the transaction. They will necessarily receive less than the legal reserve which would come to them if they remain in the Mutual. As it is conceded that the Mutual is infallibly solvent and will meet its obligations at maturity, British policyholders have no cause to abandon it, unless it is to gratify the ambitions of former Manager Haldeman, who aspired first to the presidency as the successor of Mr. McCurdy and then to the organizing of a distinct company out of the British policyholders of which he would be the head, and, failing in both schemes, now seeks a similar control as a joint manager of the North British. That they should sacrifice a part of their interests to serve Mr. Haldeman's personal ends can be attributed only to a carefully planned deception of which they are the victims. It is stated that the new management of the company in the United Kingdom will make a fight to retain at least a share of the policyholders in the company. It is a question whether the effort is worth the while. The Mutual Life never needed foreign business except to swell its size, and its troubles—as those of its two fellow leviathans—have grown out of the unnecessary quality of bigness, the promoter, in these cases, of waste. It would be quite in keeping with genuine reform to let the British policyholders depart in peace and confine all future business to this rather expanding country of ours. A touch of humor is lent to the development of Mr. Haldeman's plans to corral the Britons to his own behoof, by the consternation that has smitten the Bowles-Lawson-Untermyer combination, which counted on British aid in its movement to capture the control of the assets of the Mutual Life. Frantic appeals to stick to the company, because the combination will clean out the present administration, have gone across the water, only to meet with callous indifference. It is pitiful that a sacred interest so great as this of the Mutual Life insurance company is made the mark of selfish conspiracies in both countries.

Facts and Opinions.

Mutual Life circles were somewhat interested this week in the announcement by cable from London that the former manager of the British department of the company, D. C. Haldeman, had made an arrangement with the **North British and Mercantile** insurance company **to take over the British policyholders of the Mutual Life** and appoint him joint manager of the London company. The terms of this deal were stated in a circular, said to be issued by Mr. Haldeman, to be as follows:

Each policyholder is to surrender his policy in the Mutual to the North British and Mercantile insurance company, and in exchange, upon payment of the same premium as provided in his Mutual policy, is to receive without medical examination and free of all expense a policy on the same lines as his Mutual policy, but with the usual liberal privileges and conditions relating to the North British and Mercantile insurance company's policy, provided a sufficient number of policyholders assent at once to this arrangement, so as to avoid selection against the office. Under participating policies issued since 1898, with fifteen or twenty years' distribution periods, the North British and Mercantile insurance company will provide assurance of the same amount as at present and for the same premium, with immediate participation in profits, under the following tables: Ordinary whole life premiums during life; ordinary whole life premiums limited to twenty payments, if there are five or more still to pay; endowment assurances for ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five and thirty years. In other classes and under all ten year distribution policies, in order to give full face value from the commencement, it will be necessary to defer participation in the profits for an equivalent period, unless the policyholder prefers to pay a slightly increased premium carrying immediate participation. Regarding any policies not embraced in the above or those which have no surrender value, a fair and liberal proposal will be made.

Subsequent press dispatches from London represented that the Mutual policyholders were flocking by thousands to the office of the North British and Mercantile to transfer their policies and that the busy clerks could not keep pace with the rush. Mr. Hogge, the new manager of the Mutual Life for the United Kingdom, issued a letter warning the policyholders against "the folly of allowing themselves to be carried away by the specious offer" of the North British and Mercantile, and appealing to them to do nothing in panic, but to view their position calmly and await the company's statement before rashly embracing the financial risks and sacrifices to which they have been invited. In the office of the Mutual Life here the officers, while not particularly disturbed, commented on the apparent impracticability of the plan of transfer, as outlined by the London dispatches, if the welfare of the policyholders were to be considered, and were disposed to regard the willingness of the British company to assist in Mr. Haldeman's "twisting" proceedings as unprofessional and unworthy of the reputation of an honest competitor. The International Policyholders' Association, so called, of which Mr. Samuel Untermyer is counsel, had been counting on the co-operation of Mr. Haldeman and the British policyholders in its raid on the Mutual Life, and went wild over the news of his desertion and heated the cable with promises to oust the present management if the British would stick and assist the association in its aims. The excitement abroad appears to have subsided, as later London dispatches are much less sensational in tone. The Mutual Life has about $75,000,000 insurance in force in the United Kingdom.

Several **stock life insurance companies** of New York have also begun to **compile lists of policyholders** to file with their general agents and the New York State Insurance Department in conformity with Section 94 of the insurance law, as amended by Chapter 326 of the Armstrong law of this year, which includes all stock companies which contain provisions in their charters allowing policyholders to vote for directors. Section 9 of the charter of the Manhattan Life reads as follows:

Section 9. Every shareholder shall be entitled to one vote for directors for each and every share of the guaranteed capital standing in his name on the books of the company, and any person insured for life paying a premium of at least $75 per annum, or entitled to an annuity of not less than $75 per annum, shall be in like manner entitled to one vote; and it shall be lawful for any member of the company possessing the right to vote to do so by proxy, duly authorized in writing.

The following is the section in Article IV of the charter of the Germania Life regulating the voting for directors:

In the election of directors every stockholder in the company shall be entitled to one vote for every share of stock held by him. Every policyholder paying at least $100 per annum in premiums, or annuitant entitled to an annuity of not less than $100 per annum, shall be entitled to one vote, and every person whose life is insured by a policy the legal reserve on which at the end of the last policy year amounted to $100 or more, shall be entitled to one vote for each even $100 of the amount of such reserve, and all of such votes may be given in person or by proxy.

The Home Life insurance company provides in its charter as follows:

Section 5. At every election of directors each stockholder shall be entitled to vote in person or by proxy on each share of stock owned and held by him in his own right, for not less than thirty days previous to such election, and any person insured for life, paying to the company a premium of at least $80 per annum, shall be entitled to one vote, but such vote shall be given personally, and not by proxy.

The company paper of the Metropolitan Life in its last issue printed the following notice:

Under the charter of the Metropolitan Life insurance company and the resolution of its board of directors every policyholder in this company whose policy has been in force for the full term of one year before, and shall be in force at the time of, the annual meeting for the election of

directors, shall have the right of voting for members of the board of directors, provided that such policyholder or proxy shall, not more than twenty nor less than ten days before the day of such election, file with the secretary of this company a written notice of intention to so vote at such annual election, and if by proxy, a copy thereof.

Other stock companies make similar provisions for voting by certain classes of policyholders. These companies, however, construe the requirements of the new law as applying only to their regular annual elections, and not to those special elections provided for mutual companies. The annual meeting of the Germania Life takes place the second Wednesday in December; that of the Metropolitan Life the second Tuesday in April and that of the Manhattan Life the second Tuesday in May.

When the life matters before the Massachusetts legislative insurance committee were put over until the next session the petition for a charter for a new life insurance company was exempted and an order secured recommitting the petition, with instructions to report at the present session. A new draft of the bill asking for the charter has been made, in which the original list of three incorporators is conspicuous by its absence, and the originally proposed name of American Life insurance company is given up in favor of the title of **Bay State Mutual Life Assurance Society.** The incorporators of the society comprise some of the most widely known Bostonians, namely, Edmund D. Codman, Henry L. Higginson, Thomas L. Livermore, Henry S. Pritchetts, George U. Crocker, John P. Reynolds, Jr., Charles Francis Adams, 2d, Moses Williams, I. Tucker Burr, Lawrence Minot, Louis A. Frothingham, Richard C. Storey, Arthur Dehon Hill and James A. Parker. Many of the foregoing will be recognized as prominent in the financial, educational and political matters of the Hub. Under the plan proposed the society is to have a guaranty capital stock of $500,000, on which cumulative dividends of 8 per cent. may be paid, and provision is made that at least 20 per cent. of the surplus shall be applied annually toward the retirement of the capital stock. The directors are to be elected half by the stockholders and half by the assured until the stock is retired, when the policyholders shall elect all the directors. The business plan includes the most advanced ideas of theoretical reformers for selling life insurance "at cost" without solicitation by agents, the incorporators to act in the capacity of trustees without salary. Insurance is to be issued both on the "ordinary" and the industrial plans. An early report on the bill is expected, and if the charter is granted the company intends to begin business in the autumn. It will be an interesting experiment, if undertaken, and in that event the character and financial responsibility of the incorporators indicate that it will be given an honest trial. Certainly, professional life underwriters may watch with equanimity the progress of an object lesson, not only instituted at the expense of well meaning but impractical theorists, but likely in the end to silence their oft iterated assumptions.

At a **special meeting of the trustees of the Mutual Life insurance company** on Monday the resignation of Julien T. Davies, as general solicitor of the company, was announced, and James McKeen, who was associated with Charles E. Hughes as counsel in the life insurance investigation, was chosen as Mr. Davies' successor. In accordance with the changes in the bylaws made at the previous board meeting elections of officers took place as follows: Second vice presidents, Granville M. White, George T. Dexter, James Timpson; financial manager, James Timpson; treasurer, Charles H. Warren; actuary, Emory McClintock; secretaries, William J. Easton and William F. Dix; general solicitor, James McKeen; manager of real estate department, William W. Richards; assistant treasurer, Stephen Smith; associate actuary, William A. Hutcheson; superintendent of domestic agencies, George T. Dexter; superintendent of foreign agencies, Henry E. Duncan; medical director, Brandreth Symonds, purchasing agent, Walter S. Sullivan; registrar, Guion Trowbridge; superintendent policy loans, Frederick E. Mercer. Two new directors were elected. They are Henry Phipps, of Pittsburgh, and William I. McMillan, of Detroit, a son of Senator McMillan. The revised bylaws created five committees, as follows: Finance, five members; real estate, five members; insurance and agencies, five members; mortuary claims, four members; auditing, three members. All officers are made subject to removal by a two-thirds vote of the board of trustees present at a meeting. No position carrying a salary in excess of $2,500 yearly can be established except with the approval of the proper committee or the board of trustees. Suits have been instituted by the company against Robert Olyphant, Charles E. Miller and James C. Holden, trustees and members of the Mutual's committee on expenditures, and against the estate of the late J. Hobart Herrick, a former member of the committee, to recover such sums of money as may have been wasted through the alleged negligence of the defendants. The suits were begun by the service of summons on May 8. No complaints have been drawn as yet. Job E. Hedges appears for Mr. Holden and Bowers & Sands for Robert Olyphant, chairman of the committee. The amounts sued for are estimated at $1,200,000.

Dispatches from Chicago early in the week told of a meeting of the board of directors of the **Traders Fire insurance company,** held on Monday, at which it was voted to levy a stock assessment to pay the San Francisco losses dollar for dollar and resume business, as was done by the Fireman's Fund last week. Later advices announce that a formal agreement has been drawn up by Charles H. Hamill, Noble B. Judah and Thomas Bates, attorneys, which, it is stated, will be signed by the directors after the special investigators whom they are sending to San Francisco have reported. It is understood that there are certain of the stockholders who were very much disgusted with the action of the directors in applying for a receiver. Most of the blame seems to rest on Secretary Rothermel. At the very time when he was most needed in Chicago to confer with the directors and help steer the ship clear of rocks he left personally for the Pacific Coast to look after matters there which his competent agent on the Coast could have attended to as well alone. In the meantime the directors, most of whom were bankers, accustomed more to making money than to losing it, got a bad attack of rattles at the thought of such a pile of money slipping away from them, and their hasty and ill advised action resulted. Within a few days the entire field force was broken up, and public confidence in the directors themselves so shaken that many large accounts have been withdrawn from financial institutions in which the same men are interested. In view of these circumstances it is the opinion of many that the scheme for reinstating the Traders is impracticable and therefore improbable. The time for such action was early in the game, when many of the local agents stood ready to subscribe to new stock and the public was ready to applaud heroic deeds.

The claims of concrete as an economical, durable and fireproof building material have been put up to fire underwriters and the public at large to a considerable extent lately, and, in the main, justly so. But there is such a thing as water damage incident to fires, and the behavior of a cinder concrete floor at the Larkin Company soap factory at Buffalo, N. Y., on

April 21, as set forth in the following extract from the April report of the Boston Manufacturers' Mutual Fire, suggests the necessity of having such floors, in some way, made water-tight:

At 1.30 p. m. a fire occurred in the upper story of Building "F." This building is constructed of steel and concrete throughout. The floors are made of 3 inch cinder concrete slabs re-enforced with expanded metal, on which are laid wood nailing strips 3x4 inches, the space between these strips being filled with dry cinders. To the strips is nailed a top floor of 1⅛ inch maple. The building is occupied for the storage of premiums, so called, given to purchasers of the soap. The room where the fire originated contained at the time lawn tents folded and stored on edge three tiers high. A doorway covered with fire door opened into Building "E," where men were at work. Five minutes before the fire occurred a man had removed a piece of furniture from "F" to "E" through this doorway. About the same time the assistant electrician had thrown a switch located about 15 feet from where the fire started. Leaving the switch and returning in about five minutes, he discovered the fire and gave the alarm. It is difficult to determine the exact cause of the fire, but it must have been due in some way to the men at work in the room. Two sprinklers immediately opened and extinguished the fire, but before they could be shut off some 700 gallons of water had been discharged upon the floors. These floors, being constructed of cinder concrete, were practically as porous as an ordinary plank mill floor, so that the water leaked through the same like a sieve into the room below, which is occupied for the storage of rugs. The total loss, which is practically by water, amounts to $1,721.86. Mutual loss about $825. This company not interested.

Amid the noise and confusion of the carpenters and decorators on the seventh floor of the Continental Building, Resident Secretary William J. Gardner, of the **Ætna Life's accident and liability department**, is quietly going about his work of reorganizing the New York branch office. It will take two or three months to have the new order of things thoroughly in hand, but beginning with June 1 all policies will be issued from the New York branch, all inspections made and claims settled. Heretofore all but the smaller policies were issued from the home office in Hartford. Mr. Gardner is experienced in reorganizing departments, having come direct from the Pacific Coast a little over a month ago, where he directed changes in the San Francisco office. He did similar work for the New Amsterdam Casualty in Chicago, and was at one time with the Fidelity and Casualty there. It will be necessary to look over and file again all records here of the Ætna's liability department for four years back, and reclassify alphabetically and otherwise all risks. Home office reports in future will not be made any oftener than once a month under the new régime.

The nominating committee of the **New York Board of Fire Underwriters** has recommended the following members for election as officers and committeemen at the annual meeting to take place next Monday:

For president, Alexander H. Wray; vice president, George W. Burchell; secretary, Alfred M. Thorburn; assistant secretary, Frederick V. Price; treasurer, Lindley Murray, Jr.; assistant treasurer, David J. Burtis.

For Committee on Finance—F. O. Affeld, M. S. Driggs, Henry W. Eaton, George B. Edwards, Harold Herrick, Thomas A. Ralston, John M. Whiton.

For Committee on Fire Patrol—M. J. Ennis, William B. Ogden, Charles A. Post, F. V. Price, Hugo Schumann, E. G. Snow, A. M. Thorburn.

For Committee on Laws and Legislation—Charles L. Case, E. H. A. Correa, W. E. Hutchins, William N. Kremer, Frank Lock, C. F. Shallcross, George P. Sheldon.

For Committee on Losses and Adjustments—George W. Babb, Louis P. Bayard, C. S. Bartow, M. O. Brown, J. Montgomery Hare, Harold Herrick, J. G. Hilliard, George W. Hoyt, William N. Kremer, Lindley Murray, Jr., John M. Talbot.

For Committee on Surveys—Frederick H. Crum, Howard Hampton, J. F. Hastings, Frank Lock, E. E. Pearce, W. L. Perrin, F. H. Way.

For Committee on Electricity—James A. Alexander, R. C. Christopher, George Ingraham, A. D. Irving, Joseph McCord, F. T. Stinson, S. R. Weed.

The semi-annual meeting of the **executive committee of the National Association of Life Underwriters** will be held Tuesday next at the Hotel Gotham, Fifth avenue and Fifty-fifth street, beginning at 10 o'clock. The session is expected to take up the entire day, and possibly part of Wednesday morning. A reception will take place at 6:30 o'clock Tuesday, to be followed at 7 by a banquet given at the Savoy, Fifth avenue and Fifty-ninth street, by the Life Underwriters' Association of New York, for which fifty-eight invitations have been issued. Mr. Charles E. Hughes will be the speaker of the evening and the newly appointed Insurance Commissioner, Otto Kelsey, of Geneseo, will be the guest of honor. Speeches will also be made by Secretary Ernest J. Clark, of the National Association, and probably by Dr. Parkes Cadman and St. Clair McKelway, of the Brooklyn *Eagle*. President T. R. Fell, of the Life Underwriters' Association of New York, will act as toastmaster at the dinner. Richard E. Cochran, vice president of the United States Life, is chairman of the executive committee of the National Association. Following are the members of the dinner committee: Herbert N. Fell, Theodore H. Johnson, Tilden Blodgett, William C. Johnson, Lawrence Priddy, T. R. Fell and Charles Jerome Edwards.

The **Tennessee Business Men's Fire Insurance League** was organized at a two days' meeting at Nashville on Thursday and Friday of this week. One hundred and fifty delegates were present from all parts of the State. The meeting was the result of a movement to consider the fire insurance situation in Tennessee started by the Nashville Board of Trade. Addresses were made by Insurance Commissioners Folk of Tennessee, Young of North Carolina and Prewitt of Kentucky. The Tennessee official demanded that the fire insurance companies should make the same rates on the same class of property everywhere. Inferior construction of buildings, lax inspection and overinsurance were given as reasons for excessive insurance rates. He advocated the liberalization of laws applying to mutual companies, and considered the mutual business as ideal. The following officers were elected: S. G. Douglass, Nashville, president; Robert Morrison, Chattanooga; E. M. Kennedy, Knoxville, and J. A. Goodwin, Memphis, vice presidents; W. R. Cornelius, Jr., secretary and treasurer. A board of governors was also elected.

One of the unfortunate features of the conflagration excitement on the Pacific Coast was a **circular issued by George H. Tyson**, of San Francisco, general agent for the German American, German Alliance, Phœnix of Hartford and New Hampshire. It purported to give a list of insurance companies affected by the fire whose surpluses exceeded their approximate losses. The circular was bitterly condemned, as tending to convey the impression that companies omitted from his list were not solvent. The Special Agents' Association of the Pacific Northwest adopted a resolution denouncing this circular and Mr. Tyson by name, and saying: "Resolved, That it is the sense of this association that said circular is intentionally misleading, grossly erroneous, inexcusably unethical and apparently issued with selfish motives and intent to convey false inferences." A copy of these resolutions was sent to every agent in the Pacific Northwest in order that the business of their several companies may not be "thoughtlessly, unfairly or maliciously interrupted."

A report on the San Francisco conflagration has been made to some of the companies interested by A. W. Hart, a New York adjuster who is in the former city representing several Eastern companies, the general trend of which shows that there is little or no salvage in the burned district and that the earthquake damage is by far the lesser of the two evils. He estimates that not more than 15 per cent. of the damage in San Francisco was caused by the quake. The only protection

the companies have, he says, is the clause in policies which reads: "If a building shall fall except as the result of a fire," etc., and only a very few buildings, says Mr. Hart, fell. Glass was shattered, chimneys and plastering dislodged, but no one has been found who saw a brick building demolished by the earthquake. In regard to the extent of the conflagration, Mr. Hall's report says it is as large as those of Chicago, Boston, Baltimore, Toronto, Jacksonville and Paterson combined.

The San Francisco *Call* of May 13 had the following to say about **fire insurance losses at San Francisco:**

How much will San Francisco collect? Her policies call for about $190,000,000. Foreign companies announce that they do not propose to admit liability for dynamiting. Some companies have gone into liquidation. Then there will be deductions for direct damage and fires believed to have been caused by the earthquake. This deduction may be as high as 40 per cent., or it may be less. The earthquake damage in truth was a very minute fraction of the whole. Expressions from insurance headquarters indicate that 40 per cent. will be deducted for earthquake damage. This, it may be expected, will bring forth a strong protest from the local property owners. Of the $190,000,000, only $114,000,000 would therefore be available for application upon losses. Compensation, if not from insurance companies, from the city or some like source must go to the owners of dynamited buildings. Estimating this damage at a few millions, the situation resolves itself into this: A total loss of $400,000,000, on which a little more than $100,000,000, or one-quarter, will be recovered in insurance. The people of the city therefore will be out of pocket some $300,000,000 after the insurance has been paid.

In the Supreme Court of the United States on Monday Justice Peckham delivered the opinion of the court in the case of the **Travelers Life insurance company vs. the Insurance Commissioner of Kentucky** in favor of the State. The case involved the constitutionality of the State law authorizing the revocation of permits given to foreign insurance companies to do business in the State when such companies remove to the Federal courts cases brought against them in the State courts. The court held that such a law covers a right which a State may properly exercise. Justice Peckham said that a State may refuse to permit an outside company to do any business whatever within its borders. He therefore held that the State law is not in conflict with the Federal Constitution. Justice Day read a dissenting opinion, in which Justice Harlan concurred.

A spirited denial of charges of bribery made against him by former President W. F. Bechtel, of the Northwestern National Life of Minneapolis, has been entered by **former Insurance Commissioner O'Shaughnessy,** of Minnesota. He says he was not permitted to take the stand in the Bechtel trial to deny the allegations. In addition he says:

Bechtel would have been foolish to try to bribe me, and Bechtel is not foolish. The report I was to suppress was already on file, as much a matter of public record as it ever could be. I was going out of office in a month, and Bechtel knew it. He said under oath before Commissioner O'Brien in March, 1905, that the money was paid to me to suppress the report on a company he thought of buying. He testified in this trial that it was not for suppressing the report, but because he thought he had to give up $5,000. He declared in a letter to Reed that it was to buy legislation. Bechtel is not chump enough to spend money for bribery unless the goods are delivered.

The other cases against Bechtel will be begun May 21.

Under date of May 16 the home office of the **Hartford Fire insurance company** has issued to its agents the following circular announcing the taking up of its new issue of capital stock:

The time allowed for subscriptions to the new capital stock of this company having now expired, you will be gratified to know that the entire amount has been taken at $500 per share. By this means $750,000 has been added to the capital and $3,000,000 to the surplus of the "Hartford," which is thus amply equipped for handling present losses and future business. From our agents we have already received the best possible evidence of trust and confidence, in the way of a steadily increasing business. We desire to thank them, one and all, for their generous support, and to congratulate them on the fact that this remarkable and unprecedented financial transaction has been successfully completed. The opportunities which the situation presents to "Hartford" local agents are unequaled in the past history of the business of fire insurance. Yours very truly,

GEO. L. CHASE, President.

The announcement of **Insurance Commissioner Prewitt,** of Kentucky, that he will resist a fire insurance rate advance in that State, which was noticed in our issue of last week, was made in the following terms:

It may be necessary for the companies to readjust many of the rates in the States, but for a number of years the companies have prospered, and to attempt now, by arbitrary or excessive means, by combined power to shift the burden of their losses and mistakes upon those who already pay a full and fair rate is oppressive and unjust, and I will hear any complaint made by any citizen in the State where the companies are attempting to raise the rates. Unless good reason is shown I will use the powers of my office to prevent a raise. I hope to see the rates lowered in the State during the coming year. The new fire marshal law will go into effect shortly, and I believe it will be preventive, to say the least, of many fires in the State, and as the rates are based on losses, we can expect lower rates in the future.

In order to do business in San Francisco at the present time many companies have been compelled to enter into rather amusing real estate transactions to secure the necessary desk room for their transactions. One experience that has come to notice was that of a large fire insurance company whose Pacific Coast office is now located in Oakland, but which found it necessary to accommodate the adjusters and specials with a temporary office in 'Frisco. The only available space, the agent writes, was in a six room flat. This he was obliged to lease entire for a year, but is comforted by the knowledge that with real estate at a premium the flat or any part of it can be sub-let at any time for more than he is paying for the whole.

An interesting **relic of the San Francisco conflagration** is to be seen in the New York office of the Security Trust and Life insurance company. It is a life insurance policy issued to a San Franciscan and bearing evidences of having passed through a very hot time. Scorched at every fold, and browned to a crisp all over, there are places where it is very difficult to make out the writing on it. The heavy bond paper on which it was printed withstood the intense heat remarkably well, however. The policy was sent in by the assured to have a duplicate made out for him, and the following paradoxical explanation accompanied the request: "Inasmuch as the policy was destroyed in the fire, I return it herewith." President Bradley has recommended having the remains of the old policy framed.

The Committee of Twenty, of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, has issued its report on the city of **Charleston, S. C.** The engineers have few important recommendations to make for improvement of conditions there. Of the conflagration hazard the report says:

Potential—Serious in both of the more important districts on account of the uniformly weak structural conditions, and the absence of any fire breaks; slightly mitigated by average low heights and small areas.

Probability—High, since in addition to the above there is practically no private protection, the water mains are poorly gridironed and have but one supply main, and the fire department lacks reserve strength.

Summary—The conflagration hazard, therefore, is, on the whole, severe for a city of the size of Charleston, and any fire beyond department control could spread rapidly in all directions.

The quarterly meeting of the **Underwriters' Bureau of New England,** which took place at its headquarters in Boston Wednesday morning, contrary to the usual rule, attracted but a slim attendance of home office magnates, who are engrossed with the all absorbing San Francisco situation. The question of an amalgamation of the bureau with the New England Bureau of United Inspection was gone over, and the

committee appointed at the last quarterly meeting to look into the matter was furnished with new instructions and directed to give it further consideration. As the movement is in the direction of a reduction of expenses—rather a popular topic at the present time—it is rather surprising that it was not brought to a finality.

At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the **Caledonian insurance company,** held at Edinburgh on May 3, the directors said in their report:

It afforded the directors much pleasure to issue to the shareholders the report of the company for 1905, the period covered thereby forming one of the most prosperous years in the history of the company since its establishment. Since the report has been issued the earthquake at San Francisco, followed by fire, has occurred. Our United States manager has endeavored to form an estimate, and cables that in his opinion the net loss of this company will not exceed £250,000 ($1,250,000). Assuming this estimate should fall short of the actual loss it has to be pointed out that the fire reserves of the company, as shown in the balance sheet issued as of December 31 last, are £716,000 ($3,580,000), and hence such funds are amply sufficient to meet a very much greater loss than the amount suggested.

A special meeting of stockholders of the **Connecticut Fire insurance company** has been called for Tuesday, May 29, to reduce the capital stock to $500,000 by abolishing 5,000 of the 10,000 excepting shares. On approval of this course by the stockholders the 5,000 shares will be increased to 10,000, the new shares being taken at $200 each. This plan will restore the capital to $1,000,000 and increase the surplus by $500,000. The right of stockholders to subscribe for the increased shares will open June 30, 1906, and the new stock is to be issued October 15, 1906, at 6 per cent. Fifty per cent. of the subscriptions must be paid on or before July 5, and the balance on or before October 1, 1906.

Suit for $750,000 damages has been brought in the United States Courts at Philadelphia by **Muir & Haughton,** late United States managers for the General Accident of Perth, against the Scottish corporation because of the cancellation of their contract, worth $40,000 a year and with twenty-three years to run. Muir & Haughton have been United States managers for seven years, and have built up an annual premium income of $1,250,000, which has been increasing rapidly. The contract was very broad in its provisions, and provided for arbitration in the settlement of all disputes. This was denied Muir & Haughton, it is alleged, and their contract summarily cancelled.

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals at St. Paul will be called upon to decide **whether the destructive storm** which visited Minneapolis in August, 1904, **was a tornado.** The wholesale dry goods house of Finch, McConville & Young suffered a heavy loss. It carried sprinkler leakage insurance with the Maryland Casualty Company, and the damage to the building set the sprinklers off. The insurance policy contained a clause exempting the insurance company from liability in event of a tornado, and on the strength of this the companies denied liability. The lower court gave damages of $26,225 to the dry goods company, which has been appealed.

The heavy loss of $350,000 in the **congested district of Knoxville,** Tenn., last week fully justified all the predictions that have been made by fire underwriters, and is expected to materially strengthen the insurance position at the convention held in Nashville this week to consider necessary changes in the laws. The fire department was wholly unable to cope with the flames until they had burned themselves out, emphasizing the adverse reports made as to the capacity of the mains in the downtown district. A number of companies withdrew after the previous heavy losses, and many more are expected to retire under the serious conditions that now prevail.

A **new combination life, accident and health policy,** paying a $5 weekly indemnity for accident or health disability for each $1,000 of life insurance carried, is being pushed by the Pacific Mutual's Eastern department, with headquarters at 68 William street, New York. The beauty of the policy is that only $3 per thousand are added to the life rates to contain these special features, which made a similar policy originated by the Conservative Life of Los Angeles a good seller. An annual accounting of dividends on all policies is another point in the contracts of the Pacific Mutual Life.

The **Chicago Board of Underwriters** is divided as to the advisability of applying the 80 per cent. coinsurance clause to preferred business. An attempt to reduce rates on preferred business in consideration for the use of the 80 per cent. clause was recently defeated, and was followed by a proposition to apply the 80 per cent. clause to all apartment houses, that being the class of preferred business which has brought many heavy losses. The matter was considered at the last meeting of the executive committee, and was postponed for a further report.

Another contributor to *Moody's Magazine* on life insurance is Mr. F. W. Haskell, of the Frick committee, that first investigated the Equitable Life, who writes on **"Hysterical Insurance Reform."** He is another expert who thinks that much harmful legislation has resulted from the Armstrong committee investigation. He ridicules, especially, the restriction of new business to $150,000,000 a year. He claims that it is not the amount of new business written but the unwise methods of obtaining it that are objectionable.

The **"full armor policy,"** a combination life and endowment, accident and health, with indemnity provision for total disability, is a new one issued **by the Travelers.** On a $5,000 twenty years endowment policy, age thirty-five, issued under this form, the premium for insurance and endowment is $262.35, to which is added $15 for accident indemnity, $30 for health indemnity, a total of $307.35. Features of the policy are the ample weekly indemnity and the generous dividend provision at the end of twenty years.

The **Niagara Fire insurance company** has issued a notice to its shareholders regarding its financial plan, showing that the capital is to be reduced from $500,000 to $250,000 and that then the stock is to be immediately increased from $250,000 to $750,000. The new stock is to be issued at 200. This method is designed to convey $750,000, as large a proportion as possible of the new funds to be contributed, to the surplus. It has already been approved by a majority of the shareholders through the board of directors.

Because of a threatened **reduction in the fees of medical examiners** from $5 to $3, the Columbia Medical Society, of Columbia, S. C., has adopted resolutions protesting against the proposed order of the life insurance companies. The resolutions fix the fee at $3 only when no examination of urine is made, then it is $5. Members are prohibited from receiving pay for their services in a lump sum, and are pledged to refuse to act for any company discharging a medical examiner except for incompetency.

Any **college youths who want to make money** during the summer vacation should drop in and see Manager E. G.

Letzkus, of the New York office of the Philadelphia Casualty Company, at 68 William street. The New York office announces that it will be glad to make contracts with college boys for summer work, and perhaps, if "Barkis is willin'," the young men may find the business enough to their liking to follow up when cap and gown are laid aside.

Increase of the capital and surplus of the **Milwaukee Mechanics** is announced as follows by President Jones:

Pursuant to a resolution duly adopted by the unanimous vote of the directors of this company, and the written consent of more than three-fourths in amount of its stockholders, the capital stock of the Milwaukee Mechanics insurance company will be forthwith increased from $200,000 to $500,000 at a par value of $150 per share, and such additional stock will be subscribed at not less than $20 per share. The increase of the capital stock increases the surplus to policyholders in the sum of $600,000, consisting of $300,000 capital and $300,000 net surplus.

Now is the time for the **progressive surplus line companies** to come to the front. One of the lessons of the San Francisco conflagration is conservatism. This will mean the cutting down by the regular companies of many large lines on good risks. This lopped off insurance to be resupplied must be secured in the surplus liners. The Street would like to see a few more of the surplus line companies regularly entered in the State, and this is the time for them to do it.

The perplexing case at Sioux Falls, S. Dak., involving payment of a $50,000 policy in the **Northwestern Mutual Life** on the life of E. H. Darrow resulted in a disagreement of the jury. The policy contained a suicide clause, and as it had not been in force a year was void in case Darrow killed himself. He and his daughter-in-law were found dead in a carriage, and the case turns upon which killed the other and then committed suicide.

The prospects for an early start of the projected **Old Colony insurance company** of Boston are excellent. President Fuller, of the Boston insurance company, informs the correspondent of this paper that the stock of the new fire insurance company is already oversubscribed. It has been decided to start the company with $400,000 stock and $200,000 surplus, instead of making each of these items $300,000, as was at first intended.

Under the direction of the Committee of Twenty, of the National Board, five expert engineers have begun an examination of **fire hazards in Detroit,** Mich. The corps, which comes from Springfield, Mass., is composed of the following: F. A. Raymond, chief and mechanical engineer; G. M. Hoyt and H. R. Thurston, who look into the water system, and C. H. Fischer and W. R. Ruegnitz, who examine buildings and building laws.

At the annual meeting of the **National Board of Marine Underwriters** held on Wednesday the following officers were re-elected: Charles Platt, president; Herbert Appleton, vice president; J. Raymond Smith, secretary and manager; Clayton Platt, treasurer. A fair trading profit on salvage was reported for 1905. The business meeting, which was mainly routine matter, was followed by a dinner, at which Mr. Platt presided.

The **General Accident Corporation of Scotland** has issued through United States Manager Franklin J. Moore the following announcement:

At the close of the first half of the month we have written enough in premiums to assure us of the biggest month's business in the history of the companies. May will be the first full month under the new management, and it will be particularly gratifying to show so handsome an increase over anything previously accomplished.

The **Phenix insurance company of Brooklyn** has decided to increase its capital from $1,000,000, the present figure, to $1,500,000. The additional $500,000 will be subscribed at 300. This transaction will therefore add $1,500,000 to the assets of the Phenix, of which $1,000,000 goes to the net surplus. Each stockholder of record is entitled to subscribe for one of the new shares for every two old shares he holds.

The **National Fire of Hartford** has absorbed two St. Louis companies, the Franklin Mutual, organized in 1855, and the German Mutual, which began in 1868. The former had $60,000 and the latter $40,000 in premiums. The business of both, largely on dwellings, was not thought profitable enough to warrant continuance. Both secretaries of the reinsured companies will become agents of the National.

The recently chartered **New England Fire insurance company** of Providence, R. I., has its New York headquarters at 100 William street, where T. A. Duffey is its general agent for New York State. The company will promptly enter Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey and Pennsylvania and New York about September 1. The officers are: F. E. Sargeant, president; Arthur T. Parker, secretary.

After hearing the report of its Chicago agent, I. J. Lewis, on returning from an investigation of San Francisco losses, the **Michigan Fire and Marine** of Detroit has voted to assess its stock 50 per cent. This will add $200,000 to its $400,000 capital, which will leave an adequate net surplus after paying the San Francisco losses. The directors have guaranteed any stock not meeting the assessment.

The **Queen City Fire of Sioux Falls,** S. Dak., has sustained a loss of about $100,000 in San Francisco. Prompt advantage has been taken by the management of this opportunity to strengthen the company, and $200,000 will be paid into the surplus, which will leave about $120,000 surplus after all "'Frisco" losses have been paid. The company had $20,000 net surplus on January 1, 1906.

A change of name in the corporate title of the **Metropolitan Plate Glass and Casualty insurance company** of New York, to take effect June 1, after which date the company will be known as the Metropolitan Casualty insurance company of New York, has been announced by President Winslow. The broader name was chosen as more appropriate to the larger scope of the business.

The **special grand jury** engaged in investigating the life insurance charges had before it this week ex-President Gillette, Vice President McClintock and Auditor Preller, of the Mutual Life, and Edgar W. Rogers and Charles E. Parsons, employees of the firm of Lawrence & Co., who supplied the printing and stationery for the company. Andrew C. Fields has not yet turned up.

The value of a good agency in the New York metropolitan district cannot be too highly estimated. One company which writes liability and personal accident insurance in nearly every State and Territory in the Union has an agency in New York that produces an income to the company annually of an amount equal to 20 per cent. on the entire capitalization of the corporation.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the **London and Lancashire Fire insurance company** on Monday ratified the resolution increasing its capital to $15,-

000,000. The chairman said that the latest information from San Francisco had satisfied him that $5,000,000 was the maximum loss of the company as a result of the disaster there.

The **anti-trust suits** against the Ashtabula County Underwriters' Association in Ohio will be brought to trial, Judge Roberts having overruled the demurrers which held that the anti-trust law did not apply to insurance and that insurance is not a commodity. The twenty-nine members of the association will now have to stand trial by jury.

Some of the smaller companies that entered Arkansas after the regular companies were ousted are now retiring because they wish to extend their business into other States and fear conflict with the drastic **Arkansas anti-compact law.** The Atlas of Des Moines and the Hawkeye Fire have both withdrawn for that reason.

That the **New York Underwriters' Agency** is now declining risks in the congested districts of New York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago and a few other large cities has been announced by A. & J. H. Stoddart, general agents. This is in line with a policy of conservatism, assuring the stability of the agency.

The **American of Newark** has sent the following adjusters to San Francisco to settle losses: S. K. Hatfield, Peoria, Ill.; H. F. Avery, Colorado Springs, and E. M. Wesner, Burlington, Ia. Its Pacific department office is in the Canning Block, corner of Broadway and Thirteenth street, Oakland, Cal.

The following additional appointments in the **official staff of the Equitable Life** were made by President Morton this week: M. Murray, assistant treasurer; W. B. Bremner, assistant treasurer; Gerald R. Brown, deputy comptroller. All have been in the employ of the Equitable for many years.

The **Western Factory Insurance Association** has adopted a rule, in view of possible company retirements, providing that the remaining members shall automatically assume the liability of any company which retires through bankruptcy or receivership.

The home office of the **Hamburg-Bremen** has wired the United States head office to know when accurate estimates of the San Francisco losses will be ready, and stands prepared to meet its losses promptly upon receipt of the information.

Application for admission to Massachusetts has been made by the **New Jersey Fire insurance company** of Camden, that State, recently organized with $200,000 capital and $50,000 surplus. The Boston agency is to be conferred on R. S. Hoffman & Co.

The defaulting manager at Manchester, N. H., for the **Columbian National Life** of Boston, W. Harold Pownall, has been sentenced to not less than two and a half nor more than five years in State prison. His peculations were $2,212.

The United States branch offices of the **Frankfort Marine, Accident and Plate Glass** insurance company at 100 William street are being enlarged as regards floor space, and decorators and painters are busy renovating them.

The Capital insurance company and Merchants and Bankers insurance company, both of Des Moines, Ia., have united in organizing the **Iowa Underwriters' Agency** for the purpose of doing business in other States.

The board of directors of the **Jefferson Fire insurance company** of Philadelphia, at a meeting held on Wednesday, adopted a resolution not to declare the regular dividend on account of the San Francisco conflagration.

The **Fire Underwriters' Club of Cincinnati** has been organized, supplanting the former association, which was held illegal, and has elected C. C. Rothier president and William Stradelman secretary.

The **lake marine season** has started off badly, twenty-one accidents being reported, principally by grounding, in the first two weeks of the season.

The **Latin-American Mutual Life insurance company** has been organized in the city of Mexico by leading Mexican and American business men.

The **Underwriters Securities Company** of Chicago has been incorporated at Dover, Del., with a capital stock of $800,000.

The new Superintendent of Insurance of New York, **Otto Kelsey,** qualified and took the oath of office this week.

The **Firemens of Newark** has entered Vermont and appointed Gen. F. S. Peck its agent at Burlington.

Personal.

Agency Appointments.

Ætna of Hartford: E. M. Braddock, of New Lexington, Ohio, special agent for Ohio, to assist the regular specials in the absence of State Agent Sanderson, now in San Francisco.

American of Newark: Gordon & Hoadley, succeeding Gordon & Frazer as Pacific department managers, with headquarters at Oakland, Cal.

Columbian National Life: M. J. Canning, field superintendent for northern California, with headquarters at San Francisco.

Eagle Fire of New York: William S. Banta, agent for New York city.

Equitable Life of New York: S. A. Crump, manager for central Georgia.

German American: George G. Wright, special agent for Wisconsin under State Agent W. E. Page, succeeding Arthur R. Porter.

German American, N. Y.: Charles W. Goode, late special agent of the Traders, agent in Chicago.

Germania Life of New York: George W. Fryhofer, general manager for St. Louis, vice August Goerts.

Michigan Fire and Marine of Detroit: Merrim M. Hawxhurst, late of Traders, special agent in Wisconsin and Minnesota, with headquarters in Milwaukee.

Northern of London: A. W. Hicks, Spencer, N. C.; Jas. B. Lyon, Bristol, Va.; C. E. Smith & Son, Franklin, Pa.; Chas. A. Hank, Lehighton, Pa.; Wm. H. McCracken, Kingsville, Tex.; John H. Putnam, Oneida, N. Y.; McLaughlin Brothers, Liberty and Monticello, N. Y., and Henry T. Keeney, Saugerties, N. Y.

Union of Buffalo: H. F. Neefus, late special agent of the Traders in western New York and Pennsylvania, special agent in same field.

Major Luther L. Barney, general agent and manager of the loss department of the German American of New York, died suddenly of heart failure at his home Tuesday morning after a five weeks' illness. He was seventy years old. Major Barney's insurance career began in Elmira, N. Y., as a local agent in 1866, after the close of the Civil War. From 1868 to 1880 he was special agent in New York State for the Hanover Fire, which he left to become general agent for New York State of the German American. His promotion to the home office followed.

Mr. George M. Elwood, of Rochester, N. Y., general agent of the Hanover Fire insurance company, died suddenly April 30. Vice President McCord, in a memorial card sent to the agents of the company, says: "No words can too strongly testify to his fidelity and devotion to the interests committed to his care. His clear judgment, broad intelligence, generous and manly character commanded our admiration, respect and affection. We shall greatly miss him."

Mr. Clarence A. Krouse, for twelve years superintendent of agencies of the American Fire of Philadelphia, has been appointed agent of the Queen City Fire of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., succeeding Stone, Matthews & Co. Mr. Krouse has for his territory Philadelphia and four adjoining counties in Pennsylvania, and all of southern New Jersey.

Mr. William H. Murphy, senior member of William H. Murphy & Son, State managers for Minnesota of the National Life of Vermont, died

at his home in Minneapolis May 12, aged sixty-four years. He had been with the National Life since June 7, 1889, and was highly respected by the company he had served so long and well.

Mr. Charles W. Barnes, assistant superintendent in the Kansas Insurance Department under Superintendent Luling, has been nominated for insurance superintendent by the Kansas Republicans. Webb McNall, the former superintendent, who was a candidate for the nomination, received but ninety votes against 713 for Mr. Barnes.

Mr. William C. Johnson, general agent in New York of the Phœnix Mutual Life, was the principal speaker before the Western Massachusetts Association of Life Underwriters at Springfield, Mass., on Saturday last. His subject was "Recent Insurance Legislation in New York."

Mr. Alexander Stoddart, of the New York Underwriters' Agency, the veteran underwriter who has been ill at his home since the latter part of January, made his first appearance since his convalescence at his office on Wednesday. He was given a hearty welcome.

Mr. Willis Musser, formerly agent at Philadelphia for the Columbian National Life of Boston, has been promoted to field superintendent. Although attached to the New York office, Mr. Musser's work will be in Pennsylvania, with headquarters in Philadelphia.

Mr. Herman A. Behrens, assistant to President Samuel Y. Tupper, of the Pacific Mutual Life, has been placed at the head of the accident department of the company, and is on his way East at the present time to consult with the accident managers.

Mr. George E. Beedle, of Embarrass, Wis., a member of the insurance investigating committee, is a candidate for the Republican nomination for State Insurance Commissioner against Thomas M. Purtell, the present deputy commissioner.

Mr. W. F. Bechtel, former president of the Northwestern National Life of Minneapolis, has been acquitted by the jury which tried him on the charge of misusing funds of that company. He is to be tried on another indictment.

Mr. Harrie E. Walker has been appointed supervisor of the Pacific Coast for the Columbian National Life of Boston. He is located at the temporary headquarters of the company at Oakland, but will later move to San Francisco.

Mr. J. H. Harrison Hogge, former agency manager of the British department of the Mutual Life of New York, has been appointed to succeed D. C. Haldeman, resigned, as general manager for the United Kingdom.

Col. Clarence Hodson, of Philadelphia, general agent for the Manhattan Life in eastern Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, visited the home office of the company in New York on Tuesday.

Manager Oscar Ising, of the United States branch of the Ocean Assurance Corporation, returned to New York Tuesday on the Kaiser Wilhelm from a three weeks' business trip abroad.

Mr. Richard Thompson, of Baltimore, general manager of the accident department of the Maryland Casualty Company, was in New York during the early part of the week.

Mr. H. A. Zeckendorf has been appointed general agent of the Security Trust and Life for northern California.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Louisiana.

BATON ROUGE, La., May 17.—The Legislature assembled in biennial session on Monday. Governor Blanchard sent a message to the Legislature today on life insurance, showing the number of policies in each of the large companies held in Louisiana and their aggregate value, and urging legislation to protect all Louisiana policyholders. The Governor says in part:

We do not need Federal interference. There is no warrant in the Federal Constitution for it. The State is able to legislate for the protection of its own domestic interests.

The recent official investigation of the Armstrong Legislative Committee in New York has revealed the utter rottenness of the management of the big insurance companies. There never were more flagrant instances of positions of trust having been prostituted to private gain.

The evil lies in the accumulation of vast sums of money in one centre, practically under a one man control or set of men. To remedy a trouble or evil remove the cause.

I therefore recommend to you the enactment of legislation, making it a condition precedent to doing business or continuing to do business in Louisiana that every life insurance company shall submit to the Insurance Department of the State before the 30th day of June of each year satisfactory evidence that it has invested in Louisiana property or securities, or in mortgages on Louisiana property, or has loaned on policies of citizens of Louisiana, an amount to equal the legal reserve on the policies of Louisiana people, as shown by the sworn report of the company on December 31 of the previous year.

The Governor recommended legislation to compel non-participating companies to make an annual distribution of dividends to policyholders, reserving a reasonable percentage of the profits for emergencies.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., May 14.—The Senate has concurred with the House in agreeing to a recess committee to revise the insurance laws, which shall consist of the regular committee on insurance, plus one Senator and three Representatives in addition.

The Judiciary Committee reported a bill to restore to the revised laws certain provisions relating to fraternal beneficiary organizations which had been omitted in the recent codification.

New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., May 12.—Governor Stokes has signed House Bill No. 498, by Mr. Martin, providing that life insurance companies be taxed on the full amount of their property, exclusive of real estate, after deducting the amount of debts or liabilities.

United States Congress.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 17.—Hearings were given this week by the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives on the Ames bill to regulate the insurance business in the District of Columbia. On Monday Commissioners O'Brien of Minnesota and Drake of the District of Columbia made arguments in favor of the bill, although they admitted that it needed revision.

Ex-Commissioner Fricke, of Wisconsin, criticised the bill along the lines of his article printed in THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER of last Saturday. It also received the further comments of Edward E. Rhodes, mathematician of the Mutual Benefit Life, and Vice President Ashbrook, of the Provident Life and Trust. The committee requested Mr. Rhodes to prepare a shorter bill in accordance with the views he expressed at the hearing.

Mr. Miles M. Dawson was the principal speaker at Tuesday's session. Mr. Dawson was strongly of the opinion that the committee would act unwisely if it allowed itself to be drawn into any effort to legislate at this session, or, in fact, to legislate at all without a long and careful inquiry into the conditions surrounding a subject so technical. Mr. Dawson urged that the legislation should be prepared for during the summer and fall, but that it should not be actively undertaken until next winter. He advised that two-fifths of the 50 per cent. reserve held by fire insurance companies be made available to meet conflagration losses, and spoke despondently of the situation as affected by the San Francisco fire. He was from time to time engaged in pointed colloquies with Mr. Ames, the author of the bill, as to its merits.

Senator Bulkeley, of Connecticut, president of the Ætna Life, was before the committee on Thursday, and frankly defended contributions of company funds to defeat political parties whose success threatened injury to the interests of policyholders. He disputed some of the statements of Mr. Dawson regarding fire insurance liabilities.

Other representatives of the insurance situation before the committee on Thursday were Commissioner O'Brien, of Minnesota; Mr. Kuhns, of the Bankers Life of Des Moines, and Henry P. Davis, for local insurance companies.

THE SAN FRANCISCO CONFLAGRATION.

Official Statement of the Insurance Losses by the New York Insurance Department.

Superintendent Francis Hendricks issued the following circular letter this week, with the appended statement of losses by fire at San Francisco and other places in California following the earthquake shocks of April 18 and 19, as reported to the Department by the companies which transact business in the State of New York:

On the 23d ultimo the Department called upon all fire insurance companies of this State and also of other States and of foreign countries authorized to transact business in this State, for an estimated statement of their losses in the recent conflagrations in San Francisco and other cities and villages in California, to be returned not later than the 5th instant.

The following tables show for companies of this and other States the paid up capital, net surplus, surplus to policyholders, as of December 31, 1905, and the estimated loss, and for foreign fire companies of other countries, United States capital under Section 27, insurance law, United States surplus to policyholders, as of December 31, 1905, and the estimated loss.

In the Department circular letter of April 23, calling for the estimated loss of the companies, we advised that a sworn statement as of June 1 would be required. It is now evident that at that date the companies will not be in a position to make such returns, owing to the fact that in many instances their records have either been destroyed or are still inaccessible, therefore sworn returns of the companies will be called for as of June 30. When such returns are in hand they will be tabulated and published.

NEW YORK STATE JOINT-STOCK FIRE AND FIRE-MARINE COMPANIES.

Companies.	Capital December 31, 1905.	Net Surplus on December 31, 1905.	Surplus to Policyholders December 31, 1905.	Estimated Net Loss in Calif'nia Conflagrations.
Agricultural	$500,000	$857,262	$1,357,262	$750,000
Albany	250,000	252,393	502,393	No loss
Ass. Co. of America (1)	400,000	223,504	623,504	250,000
British American	200,000	118,727	318,727	75,000
Buffalo Commercial	200,000	132,528	332,528	No loss
Buffalo German	200,000	1,634,627	1,834,627	200,000
Caledonian-American	200,000	91,778	291,778	50,000
City of New York	200,000	295,602	495,602	No loss
Colonial	200,000	130,255	330,255	15,000
Commerce	200,000	149,212	349,212	No loss
Commercial Union	200,000	130,124	330,124	110,000
Commonwealth	500,000	504,977	1,004,977	39,000
Continental	1,000,000	8,424,225	9,424,225	1,900,000
Dutchess (2)	200,000	175,519	375,519	175,000
Eagle (3)	300,000	376,072	676,072	300,000
Empire City	200,000	88,345	288,345	40,000
German Alliance	400,000	629,132	1,029,132	225,000
German-American	1,500,000	6,442,675	7,942,675	2,000,000
Germania Fire	1,000,000	2,889,661	3,889,661	1,690,000
Glens Falls	200,000	2,594,065	2,794,065	1,000,000
Globe & Rutgers	400,000	1,256,147	1,656,147	450,000
Hamilton Fire	150,000	4,328	154,328	No loss
Hanover Fire	1,000,000	925,516	1,925,516	700,000
Home	3,000,000	8,720,501	11,720,501	1,500,000
Indemnity Fire	200,000	94,786	294,786	85,000
Liv. & Lon. & Globe	200,000	207,386	407,386	No loss
Lumber	200,000	111,890	311,890	No loss
Nassau Fire	200,000	248,858	448,858	150,000
National Lumber	200,000	47,380	247,380	No loss
New York (4)	200,000	61,682	261,682	200,000
Niagara (5)	500,000	1,810,412	2,310,412	1,000,000
North British & Merc'l'e	200,000	496,026	696,026	12,500
Northern	350,000	100,996	450,996	2,500
North German	200,000	90,156	290,156	160,000
North River	350,000	440,895	790,895	325,000
Pacific Fire	200,000	168,792	368,792	30,000
Pelican (6)	200,000	119,803	319,803	250,000
Peter Cooper	150,000	81,906	231,906	40,000
Phenix	1,000,000	2,236,779	3,238,779	1,750,000
Queen	1,000,000	2,722,651	3,722,651	1,500,000
Rochester German	200,000	489,659	689,659	400,000
Stuyvesant	200,000	152,112	352,112	70,000
Union Fire	200,000	112,279	312,279	No loss
United States (7)	250,000	60,330	310,330	100,000
Victoria Fire	200,000	69,774	269,774	50,000
Westchester	300,000	1,678,128	1,978,128	600,000
Williamsburgh City	250,000	1,492,093	1,742,093	750,000
Totals	$19,550,000	$50,141,946	$69,691,946	$18,944,000

(1) At a meeting of directors held on May 5 it was resolved to make good any impairment. (2) Company states that any impairment of capital will be made good by directors. (3) Stockholders will make good any impairment of funds. (4) Reinsured in New Hampshire Fire on May 4 and suspended business. (5) Will increase resources $1,000,000 as soon as statutory requirements can be complied with. (6) Company advises that stockholders will make good any impairment. (7) Reinsured outstanding risks in Westchester Fire and ceased writing business.

OTHER STATES JOINT-STOCK FIRE AND FIRE-MARINE COMPANIES.

Companies.	Capital December 31, 1905.	Net Surplus on December 31, 1905.	Surplus to Policyholders December 31, 1905.	Estimated Net Loss in Calif'nia Conflagrations.
Ætna	$4,000,000	$6,862,984	$10,862,984	$2,700,000
Allemannia	200,000	213,175	413,175	No loss
Alliance, Pa	500,000	457,768	957,768	500,000
American, Mass. (1)	300,000	89,608	389,608	400,000
American, N. J	600,000	2,430,459	3,030,459	1,000,000
American Central	1,000,000	1,431,518	2,431,518	500,000
American, Pa. (2)	500,000	253,891	753,891	500,000
Atlanta-Birmingham (3)	250,000	43,949	293,949	100,000
Ben Franklin	200,000	125,091	325,091	No loss
Boston	1,000,000	2,061,125	3,061,125	No loss
Calumet (4)	200,000	251,133	451,133	600,000
Camden Fire	400,000	516,340	916,340	400,000
Capital, N. H	200,000	104,014	304,014	No loss
Citizens, Mo	200,000	190,221	390,221	158,000
Colonial, D. C. (5)	200,000	33,733	233,733	100,000
Columbia, N. J	400,000	9,366	409,366	7,221
Concordia	200,000	194,845	394,845	200,000
Connecticut	1,000,000	1,693,973	2,693,973	1,775,000
County, Philadelphia	400,000	224,254	624,254	No loss
Delaware	702,875	200,871	903,746	402,000
Detroit Fire and Marine	500,000	769,513	1,269,513	No loss
Dubuque F. and M	200,000	232,671	432,671	No loss
Eastern, N. J	200,000	121,380	321,380	60,000
Equitable F. and M. (6)	400,000	238,591	638,591	250,000
Fire Association	500,000	1,513,103	2,013,103	1,200,000
Federal, N. J. (7)	500,000	856,185	1,356,185	600,000
Fireman's Fund (8)	1,000,000	2,070,523	3,070,523	2,800,000
Firemen's, N. J	1,000,000	1,792,377	2,792,377	No loss
Franklin, Pa	400,000	996,672	1,396,672	800,000
Georgia Home	300,000	251,553	551,553	No loss
German-American, Md	200,000	105,653	305,653	No loss
German National	200,000	154,348	354,348	150,000
German, Freeport (9)	200,000	1,952,065	2,152,065	1,532,716
German Fire, Pa	200,000	113,233	313,233	No loss
German, Peoria	200,000	126,444	326,444	100,000
German, W. Va	200,000	201,366	401,366	No loss
Girard F. and M	300,000	697,864	997,864	450,000
Granite State	200,000	200,178	400,178	No loss
Hartford Fire (10)	1,250,000	5,124,820	6,374,820	5,750,000
Home, California (11)	300,000	500,081	800,081	1,200,000
Humboldt	200,000	246,774	446,774	No loss
Indianapolis	200,000	98,633	298,633	25,000
Insurance Co. of N. A	3,000,000	3,487,237	6,487,237	2,000,000
Ins. Co. of State of Pa.	200,000	84,170	284,170	8,250
Lumbermen's, Pa	250,000	739,242	989,242	No loss
Mechanics and Traders.	300,000	137,752	437,752	No loss
Mechanics, Pa	250,000	252,826	502,826	No loss
Mercantile F. & M. (12)	400,000	68,281	468,281	310,000
Metropolitan	200,000	21,375	221,375	No loss
Michigan Commercial	200,000	44,858	244,858	No loss
Michigan F. and M	400,000	282,687	682,687	250,000
Milwaukee, Wis. (13)	200,000	155,285	355,285	170,000
Milwaukee M'ch'ics (14)	200,000	1,357,210	1,557,210	1,296,000
National, Pa	200,000	305,995	505,995	No loss
National, Conn	1,000,000	2,180,981	3,180,981	1,740,591
National Union, Pa. (15)	750,000	298,940	1,048,940	1,000,000
Newark Fire	250,000	286,167	536,167	No loss
New Brunswick (16)	200,000	44,522	244,522	50,000
New Hampshire	1,000,000	1,237,648	2,237,648	600,000
Northwestern National	600,000	1,223,338	1,823,338	499,766
Orient (17)	500,000	797,529	1,297,529	700,000
Pennsylvania	400,000	2,992,690	3,392,690	2,250,000
Phœnix, Conn	2,000,000	2,380,939	4,380,939	1,600,000
Prov.-Washington (18)	500,000	668,039	1,168,039	600,000
Reliance, Pa	300,000	203,163	503,163	No loss
St. Paul F. and M. (19)	500,000	1,315,877	1,815,877	1,000,000
Security, Conn. (20)	500,000	361,005	861,005	315,000
Security, Md. (21)	200,000	42,446	242,446	100,000
Springfield F. and M	2,000,000	1,966,024	3,966,024	1,676,455
Spring Garden	400,000	290,485	690,485	150,000
Standard Fire, N. J	200,000	180,570	380,570	No loss
Star Fire, Ky. (22)	200,000	40,640	159,360	No loss
Teutonia, La	250,000	136,624	386,624	150,000
Teutonia, Pa	200,000	227,319	427,319	No loss
Traders, Ill. (23)	500,000	1,344,723	1,844,723	3,748,000
Union, Pa	200,000	156,676	356,676	150,000
United Firemen's	300,000	224,570	524,570	200,000
Virginia F. and M	250,000	335,796	585,796	No loss
Virginia State	200,000	126,231	326,231	3,500
Western, Pa	300,000	63,297	363,297	No loss
Totals	$40,602,875	$61,734,221	$102,337,096	$44,827,499

OTHER STATE MUTUAL FIRE COMPANIES.

Farmers Fire of Pa	.....	$386,620	$386,620	No loss

(1) Ceased writing business in New York April 27, 1906. (2) Reinsured in Commercial Union Assurance of England. (3) Company states that arrangements are being made to make good any impairment of funds. (4) At meeting of directors April 26 extra funds were provided to pay California losses. Assets will be unimpaired. (5) Meeting of directors called for May 21, when proper action will be taken to meet emergency caused by California disaster. (6) Stockholders will contribute funds to prevent any impairment of capital. (7) Admitted to New York State to write marine business only. (8) Directors have voted unanimously to pay all losses in full and continue business. (9) Stockholders have offered to increase surplus $1,000,000, if necessary. (10) Directors have taken action increasing capital of company to $2,000,000, and surplus by $3,000,000. (11) Directors have voted unanimously to pay all losses in full and continue business. (12) Reinsured in American Central of St. Louis. Not writing new business. (13) Has arranged for voluntary contribution of $150,000 from stockholders. (14) Steps have been taken to increase capital and surplus by $1,000,000. (15) Stockholders have subscribed $750,000. (16) Stockholders paid in $100,000 to surplus account. (17) Loss will be paid and capital left intact with comfortable working surplus. (18) At meeting of directors April 24 it was voted to make good any possible impairment of

capital. (19) After paying California losses will show capital and surplus of $500,000 each. (20) Directors will make good any possible impairment. (21) Any impairment of capital will be made good. (22) Impairment made good on March 26, 1906. (23) Byron L. Smith, of Chicago, appointed receiver on May 5, 1906.

FOREIGN COMPANIES—UNITED STATES BRANCHES.

Companies.	Net Assets or U. S. Capital on Dec. 31, 1905, Under Section 27 of Insurance Law.	United States Surplus to Policyholders December 31, 1905.	Estimated Net Loss in California Conflagrations.
Aachen & Munich	$383,194	$628,455	*$2,000,000
Alliance	452,618	581,936	1,386,666
Atlas	349,371	801,632	*1,250,000
British America	233,620	496,403	260,000
Caledonian	343,789	667,260	*1,193,482
Cologne Reinsurance	357,458	458,960	375,000
Commercial Union	898,085	1,570,994	1,300,000
Hamburg-Bremen	264,652	504,268	1,100,000
Law Union and Crown	457,575	576,037	*1,000,000
Liver. and London and Globe	3,081,158	5,262,280	*3,500,000
London Assurance	610,490	857,682	*4,000,000
London and Lancashire	309,949	1,149,732	**3,500,000
Moscow Fire	460,590	658,859	250,000
Munich Reinsurance	425,206	1,289,221	2,000,000
Netherlands	469,283	475,464	No loss
North British & Mercantile	2,112,712	2,939,531	*3,000,000
Northern	795,259	1,365,348	*2,000,000
Norwich Union	614,844	891,798	*1,200,000
Palatine	794,592	1,069,663	1,000,000
Phœnix	530,569	1,295,271	***1,600,000
Prussian National	349,545	486,017	*444,948
Rossia	532,598	733,245	*760,000
Royal	1,761,520	2,852,126	3,825,000
Royal Exchnge	574,671	894,225	*2,000,000
Salamandra	381,263	589,255	300,000
Scottish Union and National	2,548,791	3,338,058	1,250,000
Skandia	327,037	442,735	525,000
Sun	407,709	873,275	*2,000,000
Svea	236,231	371,343	*750,000
Transatlantic	236,068	351,106	4,000,000
Union	591,519	870,314	*1,500,000
Western	301,156	782,945	400,000
Totals	$22,193,122	$36,125,436	$49,670,096

* U. S. manager advises that loss will be paid by funds from home office, the U. S. surplus of company suffering no depletion in consequence of California disaster. ** U. S. manager writes that California loss will be paid by home office funds with the exception of $300,000, which will be paid from U. S. branch funds. *** U. S. manager states that U. S. surplus will be $1,000,000 after all California losses are paid, balance being paid by home office.

RECAPITULATION.

Companies.	Capital December 31, 1905.	Net Surplus on December 31, 1905.	Surplus to Policyholders December 31, 1905.	Estimated Net Loss in Calif'nia Conflagrations.
New York State joint stock fire and fire-marine insurance companies	$19,550,000	$50,141,946	$69,691,946	$18,944,000
Joint stock fire and fire-marine insurance companies of other States	40,602,875	61,734,221	102,337,096	44,827,499
Mutual fire insurance companies of other States	.....	386,620	386,620	No loss
Foreign fire insurance companies — U. S. branches	*22,193,121	.....	**36,125,436	49,670,096
Aggregate	$82,345,996	$112,262,787	$208,541,098	$113,441,595

* U. S. capital under Section 27, Insurance Law. ** U. S. surplus to policyholders.

Miscellany.

South Eastern Tariff Association—Proceedings of the Twenty-fifth Annual Meeting.

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the South Eastern Tariff Association was held at Hot Springs, Va., on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. President George J. Dexter presided. There was a smaller attendance of members than usual.

PRESIDENT DEXTER'S ADDRESS.

The president opened his address with allusions to the anniversary character of this annual meeting. He said:

It will be difficult to realize, perhaps, that this is the twenty-fourth anniversary of the organization of this association, and that it has now completed its quarter centenary; it is an unusual pleasure to me, therefore, that it falls to my lot to extend you a cordial welcome to this notable celebration. It is no doubt true that no other organization of the kind—at least, none extending over so large a territory—has continued an effective and progressive existence for so long a period, so let us hope that other quarter centuries of usefulness may in course of time be celebrated by those who follow us. In this connection it will be interesting to recall some facts regarding the growth of this association.

At New Holland Springs, located near Gainesville, Ga., a number of representatives of companies gathered together on the 16th of August, 1882, with the purpose in their minds of establishing an organization that should introduce and maintain better practices in the insurance business, which had at that time reached a stage of serious disorganization.

The records of the meeting show that in answer to a call made by fire insurance managers residing in Atlanta twenty-eight companies appeared in the persons of their several representatives, and at the same time and place letters were received from some dozen or fifteen other companies expressing their readiness to co-operate in the intended movement. It is a fact, however, that the organization was inaugurated by the signatures of only twenty-five companies to the constitution and bylaws, but the membership grew rapidly from year to year, and at the present time numbers seventy-one full or regular members, to which are to be added six co-operating members.

In the years that have passed since the formation of the association companies have come and gone, but it has held its own bravely, though at times serious situations have arisen that threatened the very existence of the organization, but which were happily overcome by conservative and wise measures of companies and the executive officers of the association, which have preserved it intact.

The president reported the accession of four companies to the regular membership during the past year and of one to the co-operating membership of the association. He paid a tribute to the memory of Major John C. Whitner, Major Livingston Mims and Henry H. Hall, all of whom had passed away since the last annual meeting. Taking up the regular business of the association the president said in part:

NORTH CAROLINA.

This repeated organization of what are styled "incorporated agencies," one following another in the State of North Carolina during the past few months, is well known to you, and mention of the subject is made in this address in order that the matter may not be overlooked if the Association deems it one which it is within its scope to deal with, or which it is advisable to discuss at a meeting of this kind.

Inasmuch as this subject has been admirably handled by local agents and other influences, it was considered injudicious by your Executive Committee to take any definite action in the matter.

I will not detain you by any lengthy reference to this subject, but will simply make record here that the law mentioned—the particulars of which have been communicated to you through the secretary's circulars—appears to work satisfactorily. A number of towns have put it into practice and as a result have received the additional concessions in rates which the Association agreed to give in all those places where the law is adopted and enforced.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

A measure known as "The Firemen's Aid Bill" passed both houses of the South Carolina Legislature and is held in abeyance, pending the Governor's decision whether he will sign it. This bill provides that a tax of 2 per cent. shall be levied upon the premium receipts of companies doing business in those towns affected thereby. The bill contemplates the providing of relief for firemen and their families. Looking to the protection of the companies in the event the bill becomes a law, the Executive Committee in March passed a resolution that an additional charge of 2 per cent. be added to all rates in the towns enforcing the law by means of a pink slip, to be attached to all policies, stating the reasons for its use. A form of slip has been prepared under legal advice, and I recommend that the Association, at this meeting, indorse the action of its Executive Committee.

VIRGINIA.

While there were numerous bills concerning fire insurance introduced in the Legislature of Virgina this year, all failed of passage, except the one generally known as the "Caton Bill," which provides for the appointment of the "Bureau of Insurance of Virginia," the chief officer of which is to be known as the "Commissioner of Insurance," his term of office to be four years. This law deals fully with all questions connected with the transaction of insurance companies' business in the State as to licenses, appointment of agents and other general matters, and with insurance, guaranty, trust, indemnity, fidelity, security and

(*Continued on page 389.*)

Life Insurance Business in New Mexico in 1905.

(Compiled from the Report of the Territorial Auditor.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Incurred.
Conservative, Cal..	90	$157,110	122	$310,322	$13,116	$1,500
Equitable, N. Y...	221	355,069	1,054	2,376,037	70,064	17,273
Germania	17	21,000	222	388,831	14,458	7,000
Mutual Life, N. Y.	751	1,451,283	2,501	5,844,773	175,441	96,401
Mutual Benefit.....	87	121,660	135	211,422	7,133	------
National U. S. A..	10	21,000	59	86,550	5,176	------
New York Life....	248	529,916	1,836	4,903,431	152,711	30,666
Northw'n Mutual..	39	85,000	327	808,699	19,275	1,094
Provident Savings..	16	33,916	97	326,885	10,608	1,000
Pacific Mutual.....	21	32,672	36	67,719	1,569	3,925
Reliance	1	1,000	1	1,000	------	------
State Life, Ind....	96	586,213	186	951,426	23,436	------
Security Mutual...	32	55,600	35	63,200	1,818	------
Security T. & L..	3	3,000	21	55,158	1,053	------
Travelers	------	------	24	49,382	3,131	383
Union Mutual.....	12	20,179	149	265,102	7,789	4,000
Union Central.....	85	201,100	416	1,012,242	43,522	4,900
Washington	------	------	------	------	------	------
Penn Mutual.....	21	41,500	21	41,500	944	------
Missouri State.....	168	275,718	266	464,843	9,531	1,000
Totals, 1905.....	1,918	$3,992,935	7,508	$18,228,522	$560,775	$169,147
" 1904.....	1,768	3,756,842	6,874	16,918,037	551,714	150,976
" 1903.....	------	3,725,364	------	15,564,820	523,292	154,263
" 1902.....	1,465	3,095,854	5,511	14,274,011	461,146	131,649
" 1900.....	1,165	2,111,558	4,346	11,612,333	357,919	98,322
" 1899.....	------	2,482,280	------	10,967,737	360,928	50,177
" 1898.....	------	3,451,398	------	9,759,339	328,847	69,207
" 1897.....	------	3,123,666	------	9,450,142	285,115	108,589

Life Insurance Business in the State of Washington in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna	120	$262,175	778	$1,669,822	$67,155	$2,044
Bankers of Neb...	8	13,000	26	35,000	3,220	------
Bankers Reserve...	195	522,750	353	1,007,500	33,867	2,500
Canada Life.....	65	227,238	197	646,178	20,080	10,000
Central Life.....	41	114,500	37	103,500	4,370	------
Connecticut Mut...	82	132,511	391	656,630	13,072	5,678
Conservative	735	1,647,430	917	2,485,900	97,411	11,628
Continental	163	762,000	169	795,000	27,254	------
Des Moines.....	42	66,680	159	562,180	22,780	------
Equitable, N. Y....	1,380	2,549,049	4,048	8,528,209	283,475	71,398
Equitable, Iowa....	87	126,500	180	254,000	11,661	------
Fidelity Mutual....	167	341,335	308	592,560	18,990	4,000
Germania	111	165,000	298	536,297	22,421	4,500
Guardian.....	14	23,000	14	23,000	609	------
Home Life.....	33	57,200	138	194,831	14,424	675
Manhattan	46	97,500	190	478,029	15,995	------
Massachusetts Mut.	137	293,662	970	2,247,765	76,521	29,083
Metropolitan	1,083	747,695	1,741	1,373,354	54,438	9,000
Minnesota Mutual..	34	74,312	123	289,462	8,330	4,000
Missouri State.....	49	69,240	100	135,959	4,316	------
Mutual Benefit.....	210	508,665	891	2,207,334	81,338	13,661
Mutual Life, N. Y.	954	2,345,444	4,869	10,928,310	391,447	63,201
Mutual Reserve....	397	842,807	589	1,256,021	39,941	9,255
National, Vt.....	129	281,259	532	1,169,061	41,880	2,000
National U. S. A..	128	300,770	308	482,520	23,098	1,144
New York Life...	1,294	2,767,093	8,181	17,022,411	763,522	157,066
North American....	98	168,211	281	510,711	19,430	1,000
North Western Mut	522	1,374,000	4,116	8,566,139	200,415	69,729
Pacific Mutual.....	1,595	1,118,523	2,525	3,189,867	123,192	24,882
Penn Mutual.....	225	519,400	1,247	2,536,564	91,219	3,650
Phœnix Mutual....	237	557,259	457	1,024,056	40,920	5,009
Prov. L. and T....	33	101,078	57	157,800	10,206	------
Provident Savings..	80	161,191	362	1,040,032	43,721	5,000
Prudential	285	551,915	831	1,538,379	57,773	6,000
Reliance	------	------	------	------	354	------
Reserve Loan.....	6	7,000	5	6,000	186	------
Security Mutual..	3	4,076	12	12,057	994	1,000
Security T. and L..	13	32,000	48	143,000	5,007	------
State Life, Ind....	116	500,165	508	2,173,274	88,574	20,000
Travelers	45	171,355	320	1,163,518	43,054	4,000
Union Central.....	48	95,250	237	542,682	17,098	265
Union Mutual.....	292	418,976	519	819,047	26,600	6,000
Washington	146	240,284	624	918,534	42,142	2,086
Western Life.....	145	283,500	92	174,500	7,033	9,000
Totals, 1905...	11,593	$21,642,997	38,778	$80,196,992	$2,959,531	$558,455
" 1904...	11,246	20,334,640	33,511	69,620,344	2,509,310	496,419
" 1903...	9,293	17,625,150	27,473	58,030,082	2,087,411	443,723
" 1902...	------	13,905,656	------	46,515,723	1,680,934	328,719

The Metropolitan Life wrote 19,902 industrial policies for $3,244,106 in the State of Washington in 1905.

Assessment companies and fraternal orders wrote $16,569,967 in this State in 1905.

Fire Insurance Business in the State of Washington in 1905.

(Compiled from a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford.....	$4,517,963	$119,908	$53,926
Agricultural, Watertown.....	1,159,827	14,684	11,336
American Central, St. Louis.....	3,189,663	52,628	23,821
American Fire, Philadelphia.....	2,305,363	32,712	22,192
American Guaranty, St. Louis.....	141,800	1,760	------
American, Newark.....	944,660	21,298	9,966
Austin Fire, Austin, Tex.....	510,622	12,428	1,349
British American, New York.....	163,300	2,709	500
Caledonian, New York.....	623,138	7,891	3,447
California, San Francisco.....	316,309	5,061	------
Central Mfg. Mutual, Van Wert, O..	152,071	1,693	------
Citizens, St. Louis.....	1,299,168	22,362	12,737
Commercial Union, New York.....	208,483	3,976	515
Concordia, Milwaukee.....	473,192	8,967	3,783
Connecticut Fire, Hartford.....	2,007,656	37,739	15,143
Continental, New York.....	3,901,803	61,450	14,099
Delaware, Philadelphia.....	848,873	13,159	11,184
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie.....	1,141,061	19,753	13,846
Fire Association of Philadelphia.....	1,989,688	50,023	26,901
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco.....	5,633,821	119,691	43,659
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia.....	1,826,750	28,231	17,225
German Alliance, New York.....	1,185,958	24,049	12,741
German American, New York.....	3,041,200	62,744	42,456
German, Freeport.....	2,339,448	50,520	25,466
German National, Chicago.....	557,887	12,988	3,849
Germania Fire, New York.....	1,573,925	29,906	9,059
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia.	702,217	12,380	8,072
Glens Falls, Glens Falls.....	1,426,019	25,461	5,395
Globe & Rutgers, New York.....	1,030,262	18,319	3,037
Hanover Fire, New York.....	1,619,997	27,041	12,565
Hartford Fire, Hartford.....	10,241,594	148,896	73,052
Home, New York.....	5,883,620	114,717	44,541
Home F. and M., San Francisco...	5,069,277	79,013	27,097
Indemnity, New York.....	603,425	9,019	6,525
Indiana Millers' Mutual, Indianapolis.	69,750	1,320	1,542
Insurance Co. of North America...	2,788,020	59,888	34,861
Lumber, New York.....	32,800	1,375	------
Lumbermen's Mutual, Mansfield, O..	1,000	33	------
Manuf't'rs' Indemnity, Mansfield, O...	35,500	863	------
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston..	1,487,192	34,200	17,631
Michigan Fire and Marine, Detroit..	546,407	9,616	6,158
Michigan Millers Mutual, Lansing...	1,439,618	13,676	7,072
Millers' National, Chicago.....	310,056	6,927	137
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee....	1,817,601	34,215	10,907
Nassau Fire, Brooklyn.....	552,564	11,115	2,709
National Fire, Hartford.....	3,792,914	68,966	31,588
National Union Fire, Pittsburgh.....	1,334,620	24,174	2,710
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester....	970,213	18,506	9,013
New York Fire, New York.....	681,079	11,120	5,173
Niagara Fire, New York.....	2,340,102	52,720	16,236
North German Fire, New York.....	846,701	14,000	6,152
North River, New York.....	686,334	12,667	2,614
Northwestern National, Milwaukee...	2,459,911	38,948	11,548
Ohio Millers Mutual, Canton.....	221,100	3,550	------
Orient, Hartford.....	1,310,189	24,640	11,107
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia.....	2,606,304	47,254	25,622
Phenix, Brooklyn.....	3,052,891	47,908	16,894
Phœnix, Hartford.....	3,567,035	55,665	20,626
Providence-Washington, Providence..	957,401	18,434	10,835
Queen City Fire, Sioux City.....	268,955	6,633	702
Queen, New York.....	2,900,880	55,298	28,065
Rochester German, Rochester.....	710,192	10,039	5,015
Security Fire, Baltimore.....	302,063	5,750	510
Security, New Haven.....	321,252	5,503	1,319
Springfield Fire and Marine.....	2,633,682	40,361	17,193
Spring Garden, Philadelphia.....	582,912	11,406	2,125
St. Paul Fire and Marine.....	2,958,494	52,485	24,604
Teutonia, New Orleans.....	499,745	5,109	846
Traders, Chicago.....	1,973,617	41,030	19,963
Washington	1,366,991	37,492	9,498
Westchester Fire, New York.....	1,099,792	20,126	8,676
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York..	1,107,697	19,220	8,148
Totals	$119,263,614	$2,175,413	$937,284
Foreign Companies.			
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle.	$2,334,963	$37,007	$17,015
Alliance, London.....	1,813,795	36,460	26,572
Atlas, London.....	3,235,312	50,469	18,366
British America, Toronto.....	1,317,289	25,173	14,078
Caledonian, Edinburgh.....	3,137,227	40,763	18,185
Commercial Union, London.....	2,459,034	52,989	33,441
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg.....	1,796,146	33,571	10,119
Law Union and Crown, London.....	1,304,721	22,580	9,120
Liverpool and London and Globe....	6,367,249	138,759	59,963
London Assurance Corporation.....	4,030,602	80,750	40,057
London and Lancashire, Liverpool...	3,149,909	54,173	15,414
New Zealand, Auckland.....	2,449,897	38,056	9,830
North British and Mercantile, London.	3,198,761	70,418	24,932
Northern, London.....	2,485,718	60,515	29,783
Norwich Union, Norwich.....	3,356,719	47,077	19,413
Palatine, London.....	1,635,616	32,041	16,018
Phœnix, London.....	2,749,574	59,908	27,205
Prussian National, Stettin.....	1,211,267	20,740	4,786
Royal Exchange, London.....	3,421,258	49,363	16,906
Royal, Liverpool.....	4,904,389	98,102	44,064
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh.	2,618,350	34,559	12,412
State Fire, Liverpool.....	513,187	9,713	6,232
Sun, London.....	2,876,050	54,679	18,049

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Svea, Gothenburg	2,203,478	37,728	25,442
Transatlantic Fire, Hamburg	2,258,269	49,056	26,203
Union, London	1,949,749	35,549	15,547
Western, Toronto	1,247,464	26,710	14,228
Totals	$70,025,994	$1,296,907	$573,378
Grand Totals, 1905	189,289,607	3,472,320	1,510,662
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$154,336,748	$3,319,058	$1,187,552
1903	123,660,052	2,814,712	1,451,462
1902	117,356,504	2,545,967	954,726
1901	108,287,593	2,116,465	811,503
1900	92,987,488	1,784,410	667,893
1899	79,534,739	1,492,267	579,498
1898	68,884,369	1,287,169	558,622
1897	51,575,199	1,030,066	370,923
1896	47,379,056	990,756	490,813
1895	48,495,408	1,032,277	663,673
1894	54,018,972	1,181,901	766,421
1893	61,450,550	1,379,758	663,676
1892	55,667,110	1,387,939	839,735
1891	60,860,165	1,574,427	566,240
1880 to 1890	161,218,917	4,392,268	5,524,828

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 47.2. The percentage in 1905 was 43.6.

Fire Insurance Business in Mississippi in 1905.

(Compiled from the Statement by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$5,740,148	$107,736	$55,543
Agricultural, Watertown	342,500	6,146	1,186
Alliance, Philadelphia	208,315	3,342	20
American, Boston	53,895	2,054	947
American Central, St. Louis	276,498	6,988	2,685
American Fire, Philadelphia	2,093,485	37,346	29,814
Assurance Co. of America, N. Y.	345,979	5,103	3,848
Atlanta-Birmingham, Atlanta	1,110,529	27,017	9,700
Atlas, London	354,765	8,040	1,506
Austin Fire, Austin	144,180	2,636	53
British America, Toronto	459,803	9,021	3,910
Caledonian, Edinburgh	294,374	6,578	------
Camden Fire, Camden	124,089	2,637	245
Citizens, St. Louis	669,960	16,980	8,261
Colonial, New York	501,875	14,983	5,821
Colonial Fire, Washington	46,228	1,554	2,489
Cologne Reinsurance, Cologne	239,601	4,563	4,642
Commercial Union, London	1,878,733	42,392	26,935
Commonwealth Fire, Dallas, Tex.	54,256	1,172	------
Concordia Fire, Milwaukee	1,179,887	12,947	3,455
Continental, New York	1,136,775	27,822	15,778
Delaware, Philadelphia	166,296	6,058	4,305
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	283,180	8,266	4,897
Eagle, New York	144,602	2,786	90
Equitable Fire & Marine, Providence	10,219	2,055	678
Federal, Jersey City	181,816	4,518	435
Fire Association of Philadelphia	2,208,053	54,866	43,510
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	1,900,214	33,222	27,797
Georgia Home, Columbus	1,348,447	27,112	17,689
German Alliance, New York	353,208	7,226	6,681
German American, New York	2,160,152	38,020	20,914
German, Freeport	2,554,991	32,140	19,283
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	1,780,061	50,050	29,605
Hanover Fire, New York	47,575	953	------
Hartford Fire, Hartford	6,243,726	127,050	44,718
Home, New York	11,918,087	191,877	137,172
Indemnity Fire, New York	317,263	7,206	6,584
Insurance Co. of N. America, Phila.	2,907,533	72,490	47,712
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverpool.	8,883,979	180,953	90,916
Liverpool & London & Globe, N. Y.	1,324,162	9,716	2,645
London Assurance Corporation	513,857	13,147	6,018
London and Lancashire Fire	2,183,854	34,887	22,535
Mechanics and Traders, N. Orleans	2,128,236	27,861	15,181
Merchants Union, Meridian, Miss.	1,718,619	36,485	21,286
Metropolitan, Chicago	47,233	1,076	------
Michigan Commercial, Lansing	313,286	5,440	102
Michigan Millers Mutual, Lansing	241,622	5,597	871
Mississippi Fire Association	1,433,871	51,283	59,928
Mississippi Home, Vicksburg	4,318,227	115,086	58,631
Moscow Fire, Moscow	299,586	11,400	2,816
National Fire, Hartford	2,748,355	54,127	36,262
National Lumber	20,100	484	------
Niagara, New York	760,314	16,482	3,633
N. British and Mercantile, London	3,926,211	35,462	28,782
Northern, London	1,327,200	18,061	11,142
North German Fire, New York	467,233	6,816	676
Northern, New York	484,857	14,195	9,000
North River, N. Y.	428,712	10,861	4,079
Norwich Union	1,447,370	26,758	10,132
Orient, Hartford	351,073	7,248	1,004
Palatine, London	811,318	25,883	13,524
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	1,583,471	37,657	25,725
Peter Cooper, New York	72,611	2,061	1,188
Phenix, Brooklyn	4,353,547	138,433	71,438
Phœnix, London	1,355,610	39,065	28,950
Phœnix, Hartford	2,400,506	43,266	17,121
Providence-Washington, Providence	2,149,457	41,061	20,791
Queen, New York	1,834,130	38,959	18,453
Rossia, St. Petersburg	1,101,381	22,176	12,285
Royal, London	3,841,736	56,947	31,921
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	791,669	22,669	12,450
Scottish Union & National, Edinburgh	846,739	19,334	9,799
Security Fire, Baltimore	862,990	9,032	6,035
St. Paul F. and M., St. Paul	1,622,739	18,839	16,285
Security, New Haven	229,987	4,111	------
Skandia, Stockholm	359,669	6,030	2,271
Southern Fire, Lynchburg	141,100	3,279	1,299
Southern, New Orleans	651,794	19,418	13,256
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	2,127,227	29,931	16,853
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	251,252	5,232	35
Star Fire, Louisville	102,788	2,546	1,066
State, Liverpool	25,841	471	------
Sun, New Orleans	1,416,789	43,626	30,804
Sun, London	631,415	16,420	6,917
Teutonia, New Orleans	1,206,390	26,065	21,407
Traders, Chicago	1,251,929	28,731	8,087
Travelers Fire, Pine Bluff, Ark.	55,708	1,308	------
Union, London	439,684	6,557	2,717
United States Fire, New York	184,190	5,377	6,763
Virginia Fire and Marine, Richmond.	1,011,641	25,486	12,236
Virginia State, Richmond	1,318,500	28,562	14,074
Western, Toronto	2,033,565	30,737	13,793
Westchester Fire, New York	858,210	18,940	13,794
Totals, 1905	$125,074,838	$2,514,590	$1,424,883
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$119,915,259	$2,364,300	$1,972,238
1903	98,627,819	1,922,870	852,295
1902	80,802,266	1,614,416	813,813
1901	75,768,383	1,374,151	773,268
1900	72,813,137	1,392,027	718,534
1899	63,788,019	1,156,812	588,048
1898	48,831,673	921,881	392,559
1897	51,832,277	890,348	266,554
1896	40,755,723	866,162	399,712
1895	42,092,487	827,480	431,765
1894	37,951,832	787,985	376,014
1893	37,902,930	750,680	421,062
1892	40,008,114	731,501	398,350
1891	36,228,205	665,944	463,617
1880 to 1890	282,089,604	5,161,721	2,890,440

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 54.9. The percentage in 1905 was 56.7.

(Continued from page 387.)

fraternal benefit companies, associations and orders. It includes what is the equivalent of a fire marshal's law, and is altogether considered a decided advantage to insurance companies. The act includes provision for the maintenance of the bureau by an annual assessment against the companies of all classes mentioned doing business in the State, except fraternal benefit orders, in a sum not exceeding one-tenth of one per cent. of the gross amount of the premiums received by the companies.

As information, I beg to state that a suggestion has been made by a member of the Association that Virginia be removed from the jurisdiction of the South Eastern Tariff Association, and that an independent State Board for Virginia be established.

The president discussed this proposition and read a communication from the Virginia Committee to the Executive Committee, protesting against the withdrawal of the association from Virginia. The transactions of the Virginia Committee during the year were reported and commended.

THE BIRMINGHAM SITUATION.

Touching upon conditions at Birmingham, Ala., the president said:

At the November meeting of the Executive Committee the Birmingham situation was thoroughly canvassed, all of the managers and special agents of the city being invited into conference, and the result was a resolution providing for a Committee of Nine to visit Birmingham and confer with property owners and the public generally, with the object of ascertaining what could be done in regard to improvements in that city. It is unnecessary to detain you with an account of all the details connected with the several visits of the Special Committee to Birmingham and of the Citizens' Committee of Birmingham to Atlanta. The progress of the negotiations between the two committees was fully reported to you, and it is simply sufficient to say here that the city of Birmingham agreed to put into effect as rapidly as possibly all of the improvements suggested by your Executive Committee and asked for by the Special Committee, the most important of which were

the adoption of building ordinances; the appointment of a building inspector; the extension of the fire alarm system; the adoption of an anti-rubbish and trash ordinance; the adoption of a proper ordinance regulating the storing and handling of gasoline and other explosives; the providing of new ladder trucks and an extra steamer; the addition of more alarm boxes; the placing of numerous additional hydrants and the reorganization of the fire department and the election of a new fire chief.

The companies doing business in Birmingham are under great obligations to the special committee of nine from the Association; especially to Mr. S. Y. Tupper, the able chairman of the committee, is due the sincere thanks of the association for his faithful and efficient management of the matter in its behalf. * *

It is proper to add that special agents were set to work revising the business portion of Birmingham on the basis of a first-class city almost immediately after the agreement between the two committees was effected, and they are making good progress toward the completion of the work.

The president stated that the new schedule for cottonseed oil mills had been generally applied to all of the properties of that kind in the South.

COTTON RISKS.

Regarding cotton risks, the president said:

At the meeting in December, 1905, the attention of the Executive Committee was called to conditions in connection with the cotton business, and it was asked to consider the advisability of referring the entire schedule of cotton rates and cotton policy forms to a special committee for revision.

In due course of time I appointed a special committee of seven to take into consideration cotton forms and rates, from which no report has yet been received, presumably because they may not have considered it advisable to do any work in connection with the subject until nearer the beginning of the new cotton season.

This being a matter of great importance in our business, I think the committee should be continued, and so recommend.

On other matters of special interest the president said:

The last General Tariff which was adopted by the association bears the date of January 1, 1903. Since that date a vast number of amendments have been made to the book and a great many changes have occurred in the business, which would seem to make necessary the publication of a new tariff. This is an important matter, and it is referred to you with the recommendation that you give it your most careful and thoughtful consideration. In my opinion, this meeting should recommend to the incoming administration what changes, both in general and in specific particulars, should be made in the new work, if it is determined upon.

COMMITTEES OF VISITATION.

The Executive Committee meeting in September last inaugurated a new idea in the work of the Association, which has proven of considerable benefit. What I refer to was the formation of Committees of Visitation—a committee in each State—composed in each case of three special agents of companies, who travel in the States under our jurisdiction, and were requested to visit the stamping offices in their several States and ascertain the condition of affairs, the number of violations unsettled, the number which had been reported during a year past, to look into the needs of the office, to report upon the management of same by the official in charge, and to suggest methods for the betterment of the service at these particular points. Good results have been apparent already from the visitation of some of these committees, and errors have been corrected which it was essential should be removed.

COMPETITION OF NON-BOARD COMPANIES GENERALLY.

Perhaps there are some present in this meeting who can recall when competition of a more serious and general character existed in this territory, both before and since the organization of the South Eastern Tariff Association, but so far as my knowledge goes, the past year has offered a more intense situation in that respect than any year which has preceded it, the competition coming from mutuals of various grades, from local companies in some States under the jurisdiction of this Association, from prominent companies in other States and from the outside broker. When complaint is made of loss of business to the non-boarders, it is generally impossible to secure reliable information as to the character of the competition, as these people usually proceed in the dark and will not trade with their customers, unless they will refrain from giving out the names of the companies which are offering the cut rates.

The cause of this state of affairs is probably the prosperous condition of the country, the comparative freedom, until late, from fires, and that some of these outsiders generally evade paying anything into the State treasuries for the privilege of doing business, and save the agents' commissions. The agents are evidently existing under a feeling of unrest in regard to this competition for their business, and they look to the Association for protection. So far as the Executive Committee has been able to meet the situation, the agents have been protected, though sometimes such unreasonable concessions are called for that the committee has had to draw the line and decline to render the help expected.

This competition is a thing not confined to localities, but has become almost general within the territory, and especially as concerns special classes. As intimated, the Executive Committee has met individual cases by reducing the rates; in others, by granting the loyal agents authority to protect the business on their books, without any promulgation of the fact in the usual way.

Some provision must be made for handling this situation, which is growing in importance daily, with an able and effective hand. I submit the matter to you and ask that you will give it your serious consideration.

CO-OPERATING COMPANIES.

The president made the following recommendation concerning co-operating companies:

After careful consideration of agency conditions for the past two years I am firmly convinced that it is to the best interests of Association companies to be represented only in agencies free from non-board competition, and that if companies, not now full members of the South Eastern Tariff Association, desire our rates, forms, tariffs, inspection reports, surveys and diagrams, and other privileges of members, they should apply for full membership, to which I am confident they would be gladly admitted by your administrations.

I, therefore, recommend that so much of the proceedings of the annual meeting of 1904 as relates to the establishment of co-operating membership be repealed, and that the roster of this Association consist of one class only, that is full membership.

We should, however, in justice and fairness to the companies, who responded to the invitations extended to become co-operating members, be prepared to grant them a reasonable time to change their agency conditions as to excess commissions or contingent contracts, and I am prepared to and do recommend that, as to those who wish to apply for full membership, they be given until December 31, 1906, to terminate agency contracts in force that are in violation of the commission rule of the Association, provided that contracts expiring prior to that date be not renewed.

STAMPING OFFICES AND NON-ASSOCIATION COMPANIES.

The publications from the Secretary's office have kept the companies informed of the difficulties which have been experienced in the efforts of the Executive Committee to secure compliance on the part of local agents, representing both Association and non-Association companies, with the rule that the business of all companies whatsoever must be sent through the stamping offices within whose jurisdiction the agents are located. Under the rules of the Association, and under the obligations which the agents enter into when they sign the Local Board Agreement, an agent is just as much bound to send the business of the non-Association companies which he represents through the stamping office as that of his Association companies. Notwithstanding this fact and the numerous communications which the companies have addressed to their agents on the subject, there are a good many of them who still fail to comply with the rule, the result being dissatisfaction on the part of loyal agents, and the causing of much trouble and correspondence to the companies and the Association office.

The trouble spoken of exists mainly in South Carolina, though it may be truthfully said that it has been kept down to a minimum even in that State, but the effect will be that, unless violating agents are brought into line, the evil will extend rather than diminish.

What shall be done to remedy this evil? Are the companies prepared to give notice to all agents who represent them that, unless they will send all of their business for whatever companies are represented in their agencies to the stamping offices, the members of the Association must withdraw from said agencies?

The recommendation was made that the Association pass a rule preventing the issuing of policies by companies from their offices on applications and surveys from solicitors or sub-agents or other persons.

A review was made of the work of the committee of seven

on sprinklered risks. and of the secretary and various officers of the organization. The following allusion was made to the San Francisco disaster:

Consequent upon the terrible disaster of April 18, and the enormous fire loss resulting therefrom, at San Francisco, it has become apparent that steps must be taken without delay to in some measure reimburse fire insurance companies for the heavy outlay in paying off losses which are now being adjusted, and it is from the more fortunate assured that a replacement of funds must come.

In the short time that has elapsed, opinions of leading fire underwriters have varied as to the necessary extent of increase in rates, and the classes of risks on which such advances should be applicable, but by interchange of views objections have been modified, and action similar to that adopted by your Executive Committee in February, 1902, will probably suit the ideas of many, except that the smaller towns, under our jurisdiction, where the old 25 per cent. increase now applies, may be excepted.

I present this subject for your consideration, and recommend that such action be taken as will indicate to the incoming Executive Committee your views as to the extent of application by classes, and percentages of increase in rates, to the end that early promulgation thereof may be made.

On the conclusion of the reading of the president's address, a motion was made to appoint a grinding committee of fifteen to consider the suggestions and recommendations in the address, and the following were named by the president as this committee:

Henry E. Rees, Edward S. Gay, Thomas Egleston, Jordan T. Thomas, William E. Chapin, A. T. Lumby, B. R. Stillman, J. H. Burger, C. F. Low, H. C. Stockdell, S. Y. Tupper, S. J. Whyte, Milton Dargan, James Wyper, and Holmes Cummins.

The committee went into session at once. The recommendations concerning South Carolina and Virginia were adopted. The continuance of the special committee on cotton forms and rates was referred to the new Executive Committee and the discontinuance of the permanent cotton committee was adopted. No action was taken in the matter of increased rates for defective flues in dwellings.

The committee decided not to adopt the recommendation for a new iron safe clause on account of the numerous legal decisions regarding the old form and the length of the proposed substitute. The action of the Executive Committee in meeting the competition of non-board agencies recently was fully approved, and as it was deemed to have sufficient power in that direction no action was taken. Regarding the discontinuance of relations with co-operating members the president's recommendation was unanimously accepted and without debate. In this connection the following regulation was made: "Such members applying for full membership on or before July 1, 1906, shall be required to terminate their agency contract in force May 15, 1906, in accordance with the rules as soon as possible, and not later than May 15, 1907, and that no further contracts of that nature be made by them after the adoption of this rule."

A committee was appointed to prepare a history of the Association during the past quarter century.

The report of Secretary Fleming showed that the expenditures for the year had been $174,237.73, an increase of $8,781 over the previous year, caused principally by the cost of conducting the stamping offices.

The Committee of Fifteen completed its labors on Thursday morning and reported to the association. Its report was unanimously accepted.

Mr. Rees introduced a resolution providing that the association shall assume jurisdiction of the tornado business pending revision of the schedules and forms now in use, which was adopted. The commission rule of the association was made applicable to this business.

Sprinklered business in competition with mutuals and other non-association companies was referred to the committee of nine companies controlling this business.

The incoming president was directed to appoint a committee for the purpose of putting the revision of gin house schedules into effect. Revision of sawmill schedules was referred to the executive committee.

A communication was read from the attorneys of the association recommending that a test case be instituted in the courts in reference to the new law in South Carolina taxing insurance companies for the maintenance of firemen's aid societies.

The executive committee was authorized to test in the Supreme Court of the United States the constitutionality of the Alabama act of 1897, providing for an addition of 25 per cent. to a loss payment when the assured can prove that the company writing the policy is a member of a rating organization.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The association elected Milton Dargan, of Atlanta, president, and Dan B. Harris, of Atlanta, vice president for the year ensuing.

The new executive committee was elected as follows: W. L. Reynolds, W. T. Pattillo, W. R. Prescott, E. E. Paschall, J. F. Stockdell, B. H. Abrams, C. W. Phillips and F. C. Calkins. State members: Lloyd Batre, Alabama; William Douglas, Florida; E. S. Wilson, Georgia; E. H. Chisholm, South Carolina; N. J. Hayward, North Carolina, and S. E. Bickford, Virginia.

After the election of officers and a testimonial speech, by Clarence Low, complimentary to the retiring president, George J. Dexter, the association adjourned sine die.

President Morton on Equitable Life Conditions.

President Morton, of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, has written a letter to the press in which he calls attention to the injustice being done to solvent and conservatively administered insurance companies operating under the new laws.

His own company, he says, has had no less than four different investigations within a year, all of them exhaustive and all of them showing that beyond a doubt the company is entirely solvent, capable of meeting all demands, and that the fear that it will default on any maturing policy is ridiculous.

Expert accountants have found that every asset claimed is bona fide. Every particle of real estate has been re-examined and relisted at a figure well within its market value, and so with stocks and bonds. Loans have been verified, liabilities have been measured, and nothing has been overlooked or slighted. Bad accounts have been charged off, and all the society's accounts have been put by revaluation on a very conservative basis.

The assets of the society on December 31, 1905, as certified to by the chartered accountants, were $420,973,756.92. The surplus was $68,457,190.27. On December 31, 1904, the surplus was placed at $80,794,269.21. Nothing has disappeared since then, except overvaluation of securities and real estate, which were carried at a higher figure than they could have commanded had it been desired to dispose of them quickly in the open market.

The apparent shrinkage in surplus, Mr. Morton says, is offset by the economies and savings of the new administration. The cash carried by the society in banks and trust companies has been reduced from $36,000,000 to less than $10,000,000. The difference has been invested in real estate and other securities which pay 4 per cent. or more. On the reduced cash balances the rate of interest has been increased one-half of 1 per cent. These two items have increased the income of the society about $600,000 per annum. Other reforms and economies, Mr. Morton says, will be effected.

"Yet our records show," says Mr. Morton, "that through a groundless fear that maturing contracts might not be fulfilled, more than 27,000 policies for $1,000 or less were allowed to lapse, while only one policy for $250,000 was surrendered. This latter policy has since been restored, with many of the small ones, but numbers of those who gave up their policies are not now insur-

able, while many have died during the year, leaving their families destitute or nearly so, as is proved by the letters we have received.

"This condition resulted from misapprehension, and, with some newspapers, from misrepresentation of the facts. This is a point which should be seriously considered by those who in any way shape public opinion and sentiment. I feel very strongly that the good newspapers of the country owe it to themselves and to their readers to reassure the public and to point out the benefits of life insurance whenever the subject presents itself."

Annual Meeting of the Actuarial Society of America.

The annual meeting of the Actuarial Society was held Thursday and Friday, May 17 and 18, in the College Room of Hotel Astor, New York. The first session was held at 11 a. m., President Rufus W. Weeks, vice president and the chief actuary of the New York Life, being in the chair. The atendance was unusually large, because of the election of officers and members of the council, the initiation of eight fellows and forty-five associates who passed the recent examinations, and interest in the proposed general discussion of the laws enacted by the late Legislature of the State of New York. After roll call and adoption of the minutes of the fall meeting the president addressed the society, his subject being "An Actuarial Retrospect and Forecast."

The secretary reported that the following named associates, having successfully passed the examination prescribed by the council, had been admitted as fellows of the society: Richard H. Cole, E. B. Fackler, B. J. Flynn, M. S. Hallman, S. A. Joffe, E. B. Morris, J. H. Woodward and William Young.

The secretary further reported that the following named candidates, having successfully passed the examination prescribed by the council, had been enrolled as associates of the society: W. C. Baber, W. A. Bain, E. G. Blackadar, E. M. Blehl, Franklin Brough, W. Chubb, J. J. Cooper, Mervyn Davis, A. P. Earle, C. C. Ferguson, Lorne K. File, J. W. Fisher, C. H. Fitzgerald, W. G. Fitzgerald, C. S. Forbes, W. H. Gould, George Graham, Jr., M. D. Grant, B. W. N. Grigg, A. F. Hall, J. B. Hall, D. E. Kilgour, J. M. Laing, J. M. Langstaff, J. A Macfarlane, Alfred McDougald, J. B. McKechnie, M. A. Mackenzie, F. D. Macorquodale, Donald Matheson, C. Cecil Moore, C. P. Muckle, John Ballantine Niven, O. W. Perrin, T. A. Phillips, Sydney H. Pipe, A. G. Portch, E. E. Reid, W. H. Somerville, A. W. Strong, J. S. Thompson, D. A. Walker, A. W. Watt and W. A. P. Wood.

Election of officers was next in order. Mr. R. W. Weeks having declined a re-election as president, the result of the ballot was:

Daniel H. Wells, president.
John K. Gore, first vice president.
A. A. Welch, second vice president.
Arthur Hunter, secretary.
D. G. Alsop, treasurer.
C. C. Hall, editor of the transactions.

Members of the council for three years: W. C. Macdonald, Henry Moir and W. A. Marshall.

The papers presented were: "Formula for Obtaining the Cost of Insurance with Its Application in the Method of Computing the Values of Cancelled Policies," by James D. Craig; "A Few Suggestions As to the Assessment of Expenses," by Percy C. H. Papps; "A Practical Interpolation Formula with a Theoretical Introduction," by Robert Henderson; "Mortality Rates Experienced by the New York Life Insurance Company, Taken by Amounts Insured," by Arthur Hunter.

At the afternoon session the society went into executive session and engaged in a general discussion of the laws recently enacted by the Legislature of the State of New York, as to the meaning and interpretation of the laws and the effect on the business of the companies.

The society adjourned at 5:30 o'clock p. m.

The annual dinner was held at 7 o'clock p. m. in the College Room, the president, Mr. Weeks, presiding and acting as toastmaster. The speakers were: Jesse J. Barker, Arthur Hunter, Henry Moir, Asa S. Wing, Clayton C. Hall, Oscar B. Ireland, A. A. Welch and J. H. Woodward.

In pursuance of adjournment the society met on Friday, May 18, at 10 o'clock a. m. and continued the discussion of the new laws until adjournment.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
OF NEW YORK.
GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41
(Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends) . $1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund..... 225,000.00
Net Surplus..... 1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force..... 79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.
Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

Capital, $2,500,000. AGENTS WANTED.

SURETY ON BONDS.

American Surety Co.,
100 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.

Capital, $2,500,000

STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Resources (including Capital, $2,500,000)..... $6,193,137.53
Liabilities (including Reserve, $856,188.70)..... 1,347,671.23

HENRY D. LYMAN, *President.* W. S. JOHNSTON, *Vice-President.*

Telephone : Cortlandt 5395.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.
ESTABLISHED 1824.
No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.
United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Of the U. S. of A.

Home Office
NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ALBERT M. JOHNSON, President
ROBERT E. SACKETT, Vice-President
ROBERT D. LAY, Secretary
CHAS. B. SHEDD, Treasurer

Admitted assets, $6,092,500.46
Ins. in force - 43,336,600.78
Full paid capital, 1,000,000.00

Policy Contracts Liberal and Up to Date.

Exceptional Inducements offered to wideawake Agents.

Head Office for the United States:

57 and 59 William Street,

NEW YORK.

A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Manager.

Massachusetts Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED 1851

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

ASSETS January 1, 1906, .	$40,082,953.35
LIABILITIES, ...	36,716,579.77
SURPLUS, ...	3,366,373.58

Definite Paid-up and Cash Surrender Values Written in Every Policy.

JOHN A. HALL, Pres. HENRY M. PHILLIPS, Vice-Pres.
WM. W. MCCLENCH, Sec'd Vice-Pres. WM. H. SARGEANT, Sec.

New York Office: 610 Empire Building, 71 Broadway.

SUN

Insurance Office of London

FOUNDED 1710.

United States Branch: 54 Pine St., New York.

Western Department: 171 La Salle St., Chicago.
Pacific Department: 215 Sansome St., San Francisco.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

For a DEFINITE PROMISE to PAY, well defined, no experiment and taking no chances that technical legal definitions of what constitutes an accident will be used to defeat claims, BUY YOUR INSURANCE in and SELL the policies of

"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.

For particulars address **The Central Accident Ins. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

Northern Assurance Company,

OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN DEPARTMENTS,

38 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

GEORGE W. BABB, JR., Manager. T. A. RALSTON, Sub-Manager.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencie
WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1906

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance. The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy. Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

North British & Mercantile

INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

Established 1809.

OFFICE:

76 WILLIAM STREET,

New York City.

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references

WESTERN MANAGER

Care of WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William St., New York City

Applications will be considered strictly confidential.

[FIRE]

German American Insurance Company New York

CAPITAL

$1,500,000

NET SURPLUS

6,442,674

ASSETS

14,052,520

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO., INCORPORATED 1833.

FIRE AND MARINE. Head Office: TORONTO, CANADA.

UNITED STATES BRANCH.

JANUARY 1, 1906

Assets	$1,542,949.10
Liabilities	1,046,546.17
Net Surplus	$496,402.93

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.

How's Your Backbone? Can You Stand Alone?

Agents who can answer "strong" and "yes" to the above questions, and who want to be advanced more than they want advances, can secure splendid contracts with liberal renewal commission guarantees from the

Security Trust and Life Insurance Co.

BROADWAY and 26th STREET, NEW YORK

Mr. Thomas Bradley, President

Mr. Geo. B. Luper, 2d Vice-President and General Manager

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$50,019,667.03
Liabilities	41,289,151.01
Gross Surplus	8,730,516.02

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.

Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

Western Assurance Company

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, CANADA.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Hon. GEO. A. COX, President.

J. J. KENNY, V. P. and Managing Director.

UNITED STATES STATEMENT, JANUARY, 1906.

Assets	$2,397,608.00
Surplus in United States	782,945.00

The Union Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

CAPITAL, - - $200,000

STATEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1906.

Total Assets	$718,168
Total Liabilities	366,834
Surplus to Policyholders	351,334

WILLIAM MUIR, President.

E. R. DANNELS, Secretary.

M. JOS. NOWLAN, Assistant Secretary.

The Empire State Surety Co.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK

391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*

WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, JR., . *President*

EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*

DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

Insurance solicitors of character and ability, having a record for quality rather than quantity, can secure good territory and a liberal contract by addressing

C. H. JACKSON, Agency Secretary

HOME OFFICE

Bankers Life Insurance Company
of the City of New York.
Foster M. Voorhees, President.
Issues the most liberal policies,
Offers the best renewal contracts to Agents of
Standing and Responsibility.
For particulars apply
Home Office, 31 Nassau St., N. Y. City.

GERMANIA
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
NEW YORK.
ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE
Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

London Assurance Corporation,
CHARTERED A. D. 1720.
Surplus in United States January 1, 1906, $857,681.75.
CHAS. LYMAN CASE, Manager.
61 Pine Street, NEW YORK.

THERE'S A REASON.....
why the agents of the
Continental Casualty Company
CHICAGO, ILL.,
have been able to build for it the largest personal disability insurance business in America.
If you would share in the prosperity of CONTINENTAL representatives, address
H. G. B. ALEXANDER, PRES. AND GEN. MGR.
1208 MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.

Provident Life and Trust Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.
The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.
ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$2,960,364
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,603,103
Joint Stock Capital	500,000

INCORPORATED 1865.
GERMAN INSURANCE CO.
OF FREEPORT, ILL.
The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$6,148,738
Cash Capital	200,000
Liabilities, including reinsurance	3,996,673
NET SURPLUS	1,952,065

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

QUEEN
Ins. Co. of America.
NEW YORK.

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY
OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.
NEW YORK OFFICE:
68 WILLIAM STREET.

SAFETY FUND INSURANCE.
NIAGARA
Fire Insurance Company
OF NEW YORK.
OFFICE:
135 & 137 BROADWAY.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906		$13,015,852
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,389,121	
Capital Stock	3,000,000	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,731	$13,015,852

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President.
EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer.
BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary.
T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.

LIMITED,
OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York

THE Fidelity and Casualty Company,

97-103 CEDAR STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

Assets, $7,683,067.93.

Capital and Surplus, $2,986,463.85.

Losses Paid to January 1, 1906, $21,742.060.27.

This Company grants Insurance as follows:
Bonds of Suretyship for persons in positions of trust,
Fidelity Bonds, Burglary, Plate Glass,
Steam Boiler, Flywheel, Employers',
Public, Teams, Workmen's Collective,
Elevator and General Liability;
Personal Accident, Health and
Bonded Attorneys' List.

OFFICERS:

GEORGE F. SEWARD, President,
ROBERT J. HILLAS, Vice-President-Secretary.
HENRY CROSSLEY, Assistant Secretary.
FRANK E. LAW, Second Assistant Secretary.
GEORGE W. ALLEN, Third Assistant Secretary.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1906. No. 21.

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Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

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IT is reported that the makers of tickets of trustees to be voted for at the forthcoming mutual life insurance elections are having difficulty in securing the right kind of material for their purpose. Small wonder! After the buffeting that has beset the directors who have recently been in evidence, and the suits brought which threaten to reduce them to the condition of paupers, seats on the boards of mutual companies can hardly be attractive even to the most venturesome. What inducement is there to a busy man of large experience in financial affairs to give his time to the management of other people's concerns under the new conditions? The law now, while holding the director to strict accountability for the transactions of the company, denies him the privilege of profiting in any way through the influence which the position naturally gives him. He must devote himself without reward to the good of his fellow policyholders. There is not an abundance of competent persons in the business world willing to make the sacrifice, noble though it may be. One way out of the difficulty may be suggested. Directors might be compensated for their time and labor by salaries commensurate with their importance as financial experts. If they are first class men they will come high, but they are far better worth having at the price than the ordinary individual who must, after all, become the shadow of the officers, industrious though he is in the company's business.

THE South Eastern Tariff Association, at its annual meeting last week, did well to make an object lesson of the inequitable action of the South Carolina Legislature in putting a tax of 2 per cent. on premium receipts for the maintenance of a firemen's relief fund. The new law, of which at first the Governor hesitated to approve, and then, on the advice of the Attorney General, signed, provides for the creation of a fund for the succor of any member of the fire department of any city or town in the State who may be injured or disabled, for the payment of gratuities to those dependent upon any member of such fire department who may be killed in the discharge of his duty, for the payment of necessary funeral expenses of any member of a fire department who may be killed, for the purchase of accident insurance upon those engaged in this work, and for the support of superannuated and disabled firemen. The law saddles the cost of this fund on the fire insurance companies, only one of which is local to the State. The association ordered that an additional charge of 2 per cent. be added to rates in the towns which enforce the law, by means of a pink slip to be attached to all policies, and stating the reason therefor. It is a strange perverseness in legislators—not confined to South Carolina—that they never realize the injustice of levying on their insured citizens the expense of a benefit in which the whole people share. Fire departments are established for the protection of the general public, and the maintenance of its personnel, either in efficiency or disability, should be the general care. The surest way to teach this truth to advantage is that adopted by the South Eastern Tariff Association. The insured will not rest until they find partakers in the burden.

INTEREST in the matter of contributions by life insurance corporations to the campaign funds of political parties has been stimulated somewhat this week by the testimony of Senator Bulkeley and Representative Goulden at the Ames bill hearing of the House Judiciary Committee at Washington. The candid statements of these insurance managers and congressmen that their companies have given money in this way, and the defense of the act by the Senator-President of the Ætna Life, have been the cause of considerable newspaper comment, in which the impeccable editors have, as a rule, expressed their abhorrence of such transactions and demanded the punishment of the company officers responsible for them. Whether these payments in the past constitute crime on the part of trustees authorizing and officers making them is discussed by Mr. F. W. Haskell, of the Frick investigating committee of the Equitable Life, in an article which we copy from *Moody's Magazine*. The writer of the article does not express himself in favor of the practice, so far as corporations are concerned, but he is well satisfied that none of the indicted or accused officials can be criminally convicted. He points out that at the time the contributions were made they were not forbidden—as they now are in New York—by law, and that it would have to be proved that the officers personally benefited by them to be guilty of larceny as charged. They were appointed to manage the funds in their custody so as to conserve the highest interests of their companies. If they truly believed that the success of a certain economic policy would be destructive to these interests, they were as much bound to use the company money to prevent it as they were to employ it in defense of the company against an unjust and injurious claim in the courts. An extreme case may be imagined in which nearly all policyholders would applaud the giving of money by their officers out of the company's coffers to beat back a political invasion menacing to property rights—that of anarchists, or even that of militant socialists of the Debs and Jack London stripe. The policyholders' "kick" depends on the point of view. So it resolves itself into a question of good judgment by the official, and about that men will differ according to their likes. If the contributions were made in good faith for the benefit of the company there may have been a mistake in discretion, but there was no crime. This is practically the opinion of the Appellate

Division of the New York Supreme Court, which is announced while we are going to press, and it will be sustained by the court of last resort. Future contributions of this character by life insurance companies are, of course, prohibited in New York by the new law.

Facts and Opinions.

In the official statement of insurance losses in San Francisco, issued last week by the New York Insurance Department, the star opposite the name of the **Hamburg-Bremen insurance company** was omitted by an oversight on the part of the company. The asterisk should have referred to the following foot note: "United States manager advises that losses will be paid by funds from the home office, the United States surplus of company suffering no depletion in consequence of California disaster." When the report was published last week the omission was brought to the attention of the United States manager, at whose request the home office of the Hamburg-Bremen immediately cabled to Albany. On Saturday the following letter from Superintendent Otto Kelsey was received at the New York office of the company, and explains satisfactorily that the Hamburg-Bremen will be well cared for by the home office:

Dear Sir—We have your wire of even date, and have from Hamburg a cablegram from your company reading as follows:

"Will leave branch assets intact."

Following such advices you are at liberty to publish this fact in order that you may have the benefit given the other foreign companies operating in this State in the foot note carried in our circular letter of May 12. When we issue the next circular giving the sworn returns of the companies we shall give your company the benefit of the star foot note that all losses will be paid direct by the home office.

Respectfully yours, (Signed) Otto Kelsey, Superintendent.

The new company incorporated as the **Firemens Fund Insurance Corporation**, by the stockholders mainly of the Firemans Fund insurance company of San Francisco, has assumed all the liabilities of the old company, as of May 22 at noon. The sister company, the Home Fire and Marine, will continue business, the stockholders having paid in an assessment of 200 per cent. on its capital. The announcements were made as follows on Wednesday in telegrams from President Dutton to Charles W. Kellogg, manager of the Eastern department, with headquarters at Boston:

Office Firemans Fund Insurance Company,
Oakland, Cal., May 22, 1906.

Firemens Fund Insurance Corporation assures by general reinsurance contract from noon today all liabilities of old Firemans Fund insurance company under all valid policies in existence and not involved in any pending loss claim contract; unanimously confirmed by directors' meeting of both corporations, and policies of old company now have not only protection of old company's assets, but guarantee of new corporation.

Wm. J. Dutton.

Office Home Fire and Marine Insurance Company,
Oakland, Cal., May 22, 1906.

Assessment 200 per cent., aggregating $600,000, this day levied by directors Home Fire and Marine and assented to by stockholders, payable immediately, thus providing company funds for meeting conflagration claims, and continue business with capital intact. Wm. J. Dutton.

The prompt and courageous action of the stockholders of the two companies, in meeting the severe exigencies caused by the fire, will still further advance the companies in the respect and confidence which they have always enjoyed from the American people. In publishing the above telegrams Manager Kellogg adds the following remarks:

With the above dispatches we bring the circular season to a close. Neither the Firemans Fund nor the Home Fire and Marine is longer on the defensive. Both companies having fulfilled their every pledge for over forty years, it is now up to us to show our appreciation of the magnificent courage and indomitable energy of our officers and directors. These results clearly demonstrate that where purpose is present victory is sure to follow. With the main points consummated, we can rest content, pending the working out of the details, which will be furnished you in due season. "The flag is still flying and nailed to the mast."

Apostle Breckenridge, of Nebraska, is holding out bravely for **Federal supervision of insurance**, notwithstanding it is a very dead proposition at Washington, and on May 9 delivered an address to the students of Nebraska University on his favorite hobby. He attacked supervision by State officials with fury, and even contrasted it with the misdeeds of insurance company officers to the advantage of the latter. In the course of his address Mr. Breckenridge said:

There has been no suggestion of crookedness as respects the fire, accident or casualty companies, and the great majority of the officials of the life companies are men of character, whose ideals are lofty and whose loyalty to the trusts which they respectively administer is unswerving and unquestioned. As a matter of fact, there has been more trickery, more fraud, more stealing, mostly in the shape of blackmail, upon the part of recreant State officials and employees throughout the United States than by any of the other classes of persons who have stolen the funds of the widows and orphans of America. * * It is well known to those who have had occasion to investigate the facts in this regard that the insurance companies have for years served as sheep to be shorn by the best among the State commissioners, who have merely collected tolls and license fees; and the blackmailers attached to the insurance departments of many of the States have made their levies without fear of exposure. It is an open secret that among the most brazen and persistent of the whole foul crew of blackmailers was one who lives not more than 1,000 miles from Lincoln. I want it distinctly understood that I do not reflect upon the honor of the present insurance deputy auditor of Nebraska.

The plan of **New York city for water supply extension** into Ulster County, to cost $160,000,000, has been approved, with a few modifications, by the State Water Supply Commission, which further recommends the removal of restrictions preventing the taking of water from Dutchess and Suffolk Counties and Ten Mile River in the Croton section. The board expresses the opinion that a disastrous water famine in New York city is imminent in case of several dry years unless present conditions are changed. The commission tabooes the idea of taking water from the Adirondacks, because of the tremendous expense involved. It further states that water might be drawn from the Hudson were it not for the objectionable features of the water, whether filtered or not. The question of reimbursing property owners for damages sustained in carrying out the Ashokan reservoir scheme, with the blotting out of several towns and small villages, is also taken up in the report. The city before it assumes possession of these lands must pay to the owners a sum equal to half the assessed value of the property, and make compensation for buildings and improvements on lands which shall be entered. The commission further calls attention to the need of restriction of water waste.

Concerning the effect of the new legislation in New York on the **issuing of participating policies** in the State, we have received the following communication from Mr. William C. Johnson, New York manager for the Phœnix Mutual Life insurance company:

Referring to Section 102 of the Insurance Law, as recently enacted in this State, providing that no domestic mutual or stock company hereafter issuing participating policies shall issue policies which do not give the holders thereof full right of participation, it is obvious from the terms of the section that it does not directly apply to any companies except those chartered in New York. The laws recently passed, however, should not repeal the general insurance laws of this State, and the sections which were referred to last evening contain the following language:

Section 25. A foreign insurance corporation may transact in this State only such kind of business as, under the laws of the State, a like domestic insurance corporation is authorized to transact, etc.

Section 29. No foreign insurance corporation shall transact any business of insurance in this State until it has filed * * an agreement under its corporate seal that it will not, while authorized to do business in this

State, transact any business therein which a similar domestic insurance corporation is prohibited from transacting.

Under these provisions there can be no doubt that hereafter the issuance of non-participating insurance in the State of New York will be permitted only by stock companies which are not issuing participating policies in this State.

Standing committees of the **National Board of Fire Underwriters** were announced by President Burchell on Monday. Some of them are as follows:

Committee on Laws—Geo. L. Chase, Hartford (chairman); Geo. P. Sheldon, New York; E. L. Ellison, Philadelphia; Henry W. Eaton, New York; E. G. Snow, New York; C. L. Case, New York; R. Dale Benson, Philadelphia.

Committee on Incendiarism and Arson—G. A. Van Allen, Albany (chairman); Greville E. Fryer, Philadelphia; J. J. Guile, New York; Lindley Murray, Jr., New York; F. W. Sargeant, Manchester, N. H.

Committee on Statistics and Origin of Fires—George W. Babb, New York (chairman); Charles R. Peck, Philadelphia; A. W. Damon, Springfield, Mass.; Charles H. Post, New York; L. P. Bayard, New York.

Committee on Construction of Buildings—C. G. Smith, New York (chairman); Geo. R. Crawford, New York; C. S. Hollinshead, Philadelphia; A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Hartford; B. R. Stillman, Hartford; N. S. Bartow, New York; E. T. Cairnes, New York.

The chairmen of the other committees are: Fire prevention, George W. Hoyt; lighting, heating and patents, E. G. Richards; adjustments, Frank Lock; clauses and forms, E. K. Beddall; membership, Clarence E. Porter, of Philadelphia.

The **special grand jury** engaged in the investigation of the affairs of the life insurance companies had before it this week Cornelius N. Bliss, who was treasurer of the Republican National Committee in the campaign of 1904. He was questioned about the contributions to the campaign funds by life insurance companies. Other witnesses during the week were William C. Edwards, treasurer of the Guaranty Trust Company, which is a subsidiary of the Mutual Life; Charles A. Preller, auditor, and Charles C. Gretsinger, assistant auditor of the Mutual Life; Julien T. Davies, late general solicitor for the company; Frederick D. Allen and Walter T. Thummel, of the company's legal department; Dr. Walter R. Gillette, late vice president, and Theodore F. Stevens, bookkeeper. Trustee Robert Olyphant, chairman of the company's expenditures' committee, who arrived from Europe on Thursday, went before the grand jury yesterday. He had returned to New York in response to a cabled summons from District Attorney Jerome.

At the monthly meeting of the **New York Board of Trade and Transportation,** held on Wednesday, the following resolutions regarding fire insurance rates and conditions in the city of New York were adopted:

Resolved, That the New York Board of Trade and Transportation deplores the fact that the fire insurance companies feel themselves under the necessity of raising the rates of insurance in the congested districts of this and other cities in consequence of losses sustained by the recent conflagration in San Francisco, although it admits that premiums must be sufficient to meet losses as they occur, and to give a reasonable compensation to underwriters, and that such premiums should be so apportioned that all sections should pay their fair contribution, while none should be overtaxed.

Resolved, That we respectfully urge upon the city authorities the immediate necessity for taking such steps in regard to fire alarm service, fire protection and water supply for fire purposes as shall so improve the conditions of fire hazard in the city of New York that they will justify the insurance companies in making satisfactory reductions in rates, and we renew our approval, as heretofore expressed, of the suggestions of the Committee of Twenty of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, and of the committee on fire alarm service of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, and most earnestly pray that they be adopted without delay.

The **Armstrong Insurance Investigating Committee** held a final meeting on Friday of last week at Bretton Hall Hotel, and after a dinner at the Hamilton Club, Brooklyn, formally disbanded. All the members were present, and also the three lawyers—Charles E. Hughes, James McKeen and Matthew C. Fleming. It was decided to pay Mr. Hughes $25,000, Mr. McKeen $17,500 and Mr. Fleming $10,000. The total expense of the investigation to the State, Senator Armstrong announced, was $101,518.93. Of this amount $5,907.90 was expended for printing 759 copies of the committee's report. This sum deducted leaves the total $95,611.03, which must be paid out of the legislative appropriation of $100,000. There will be an unexpended balance of $4,388.97. The principal expenditures, outside of the lawyers' fees, were $4,000 to M. M. Dawson, the committee's actuary; $3,000 to Marvyn Scudder, the financial statistician; $11,197.22 for the expenses of members of the committee; $3,338.88 for sergeants-at-arms, and $8,994.90 for official stenographers.

The committee of nine, appointed to frame a plan for **the proposed Large Cities' Association**, which is to regulate commissions and brokerages in the Western centres, held two meetings last week, and expected to be able to report a completed plan some time this week. No radical differences of opinion have been developed, but the varying conditions in the different States and cities compel careful attention to detail. As soon as the plan is completed, a general meeting of all companies operating in the territory interested will be called, to which it will be submitted. The plan is to become operative when it has been signed by companies writing a fixed percentage of the business in those cities, 80 and 90 per cent. now being under consideration. In some places complications are feared on account of the large number of local companies, and arrangements are being made for the granting of competitive relief whenever necessary.

Complications growing out of the recent **loss of the Taylor & Boggis Foundry Company,** at Cleveland, are amusing the local fire insurance agents in that city. Several years ago the company, which is owned entirely by Cleveland men, took its insurance away from the local agents and placed it with New York brokers. For a time it was written in the East, but later was sent to a Cleveland firm of local agents to be placed for the account of the New York brokers. When the adjustment of the loss was taken up, it was found that although the 80 per cent. coinsurance clause was attached to the policies, the assured had never had the effect of the clause brought to their attention, and were carrying only 30 per cent. to value, requiring them to stand a very large proportion of a partial loss. Cleveland local agents are now suggesting to them the advisability of having someone who will look after their interests.

The threatened dissensions in the **New York Fire Insurance Exchange,** over the advance of rates and reduction of commissions to brokers, have been avoided by the decision of the Continental, Williamsburgh City and Weed & Kennedy to withdraw their opposition and abide by the action of the Exchange in the interest of harmony. The following letter from President Henry Evans, of the Continental, was communicated to the Exchange at its meeting on May 17:

While I cannot bring myself to think that the action is wise, necessary or entirely just, I realize that the Continental is a party to the Exchange agreement, and therefore I have to say that if the proper steps are taken under the agreement to make the changes binding this company will, as a loyal member of the organization, observe the rules and rates thus established.

A special meeting of the Exchange was held yesterday, at which amendments to the agreement of May 4 were considered.

The New York State Insurance Department has published a report on an **examination of the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society,** as of December 31, 1906, made at the request of the society. The report shows total admitted assets

of $8,691,405.24 and liabilities of $8,621,647.10, leaving a surplus or "unassigned funds" of $69,758.14. To the report Superintendent Hendricks appended the following highly commendatory note:

The new management of the company shows a conservative spirit. Expenses have been reduced, and strict economy throughout every department has been effected. Information on all points in regard to the examination has been furnished in the freest manner, and the new officials even voluntarily raised a question as to the insufficient valuation of one class of policies. We adopted an exact method which shows that this class has been heretofore undervalued, and have charged the entire amount against the company at this time. As another evidence of the conservative nature of this report, the death claims resisted are inserted at their full face value.

As to **policyholders** of mutual life insurance companies **"taking an interest"** in the election of directors the daily *New York Times* says editorially:

Experience has shown that in companies organized on the full mutual plan policyholders have, as a rule, made little use of their voting rights. They have been content to send proxies to the management. Mr. Cleveland reported some months ago that the appeals of the trustees to the Equitable policyholders for nominations and suggestions to guide the board in filling vacancies passed for the most part unheeded. Very few policyholders sent in names. It may be that under the amended charter the policyholders of the Equitable Society will adopt the course habitually taken by policyholders of mutual companies. If one were so minded, such failure on the part of the policyholders to take the society into their own control might be construed as resulting from indifference. A sounder and more sensible view would be, probably, that having "confidence in the administration" they were content to leave the safeguarding of their interests to the management. But whatever they choose to do under the new charter, the power will be theirs, and with it the responsibility.

A report on **the fire hazard of Spokane, Wash.**, has been issued by the Committee of Twenty of the National Board, in which the fire department is alluded to as only moderately efficient, and the alarm system as well mantained, but too limited in extent. The losses for the last ten years have averaged $156,000 annually, while those for the past five years have been steadily increasing. The report states that the fire hydrants, while well maintained, are of unsatisfactory type, and in most sections too far apart. The following is the summing up of the fire hazard:

Potential—Severe, owing to great height and area of buildings in the centre of the district, numerous and frequent unprotected intercommunications, prevalence of light construction, internal structural weakness in the way of well holes, elevators, stairs, etc., and unprotected exposed openings.

The conflagration hazard, as a whole, therefore, is severe in the congested value district.

In the Wisconsin legislative insurance investigation last week, Insurance Commissioner Host testified that he was offered a bribe of $2,000 by the Equitable Life several years ago, to decide the "may or must" deferred dividend feature in its favor. The offer was of a contribution of $2,000 for the campaign fund from the company if a specified decision was rendered. The representative of the company who offered the bribe was Walter Houser, who is now Secretary of State of Wisconsin and candidate for renomination. The latter denies the statement. The district attorney of Dane County declares that if the newspaper accounts of the testimony of Mr. Host are correct he will proceed against Mr. Houser criminally for bribery. The investigating committee has now taken an indefinite recess, subject to the call of the chairman.

The **Tennessee Business Men's Insurance League**, at its meeting at Nashville last week, adopted resolutions favoring the repeal of the anti-compact law, the passage of a fire marshal law, a law permitting without restrictions the use of the average, coinsurance, iron safe and three-fourth value clauses, provided same shall be at the option of the assured, and be attached to the policy by the way of a rider; a law that will give, under proper restrictions, the right to a surplus line company to inspect a risk or adjust a loss in the State; the payment of a tax of 2½ per cent. on the gross premium receipts in lieu of all other taxes, except licenses to agents; the imposition of a penalty in the event a company resists the payment of a claim without probable cause, and the adoption of the New York standard policy form.

An **injunction restraining an insurance agent from talking** has just been granted at Rochester, N. Y., by Justice Nathaniel Foote in Supreme Court Chambers. Here is how it happened. The papers in the case recite that one William R. Miller sold to the Milton Clark Company for $500 the insurance agency of which he was the managing partner, and agreed to enter the employ of the Clark Company at a stated salary and commission, and to work for it alone. Because, as the Clark Company alleges, Miller solicited business on his own hook after selling to them the good will of his business, that company asked and secured a temporary injunction, restraining Miller from talking insurance except as specified by the Clark Company. The injunction is in force twenty days pending the trial of the action.

At a special meeting of the stockholders of the **Dutchess of Poughkeepsie**, held at the home office Saturday, a special committee was appointed to finance the losses of the company and to secure whatever funds are necessary to put it in a solid condition after paying its San Francisco losses. President L. H. Vail, in a circular letter issued to the company's agents, expresses the opinion that the old company will meet satisfactorily all its obligations. The committee is as follows: L. Reynolds Adriance, president of the Merchants National Bank; Floy M. Johnston, president of the Fallkill National Bank; E. S. Atwater, president of the Farmers and Manufacturers National Bank; W. W. Smith, proprietor of Smith Brothers' Cough Drops, and J. Frank Hull, ex-mayor of Poughkeepsie.

It is the opinion of our rational contemporary *Insurance* also that one of the stock life insurance companies required by the Armstrong law to expose its list of policyholders to twisters should take the initiative in **testing the "publicity" section of the law in the courts.** It says of this and the Armstrong general bill:

The Home could at least take the initiative with less exposure than other companies to the charge that the management sought to entrench itself, for the Home received from the committee a full certificate of good character, from the committee's view, and has since made advertising use of that fact. This new appearance of the big bill on re-reading shows again that nobody knew what it contained. The men who accepted it on the roll call did not; the framer himself did not, and as for forecasting its effects nobody is wise enough to do that. It is becoming plainer that the whole mess has more puzzles and inconsistencies in it than there were said to be stenches in Cologne. We are smelling them out one by one.

Selection of counsel for the **New Jersey Senate Insurance Investigating Committee**, in the person of William H. Corbin, the prominent Jersey City lawyer, was made this week Tuesday when the committee met in Trenton. The sessions of the committee will be held in Newark or Jersey City, as being more accessible than the capital, and a meeting was called for yesterday afternoon in Jersey City at Mr. Corbin's office to make plans for the investigation. Senator Hillery, it is expected, will be chosen chairman. The other members are Senators Wakelee, of Bergen, and Minturn, of Hudson. Scott Snyder, a well known newspaper man, was elected clerk of the committee; Mayor F. W. Gnichtel, of Trenton, stenographer, and Capt. John F. Lovett, sergeant-at-arms.

The **Hartford Life insurance company** on Wednesday issued a statement in answer to a public communication of Charles H. Dresser, of Hartford, and other policyholders of

the company, who have organized for the alleged purpose of bringing a suit against the company, demanding an accounting of the "safety fund" department. The closing paragraph of the answer states: "The company has fulfilled every obligation in every contract issued by it during its entire history, and will continue to do so. Every policy collected from the members of the safety fund department during the past twenty-seven years, amounting to millions of dollars, has been faithfully accounted for and approved by the Insurance Department."

The home office report of the **North British and Mercantile** for 1905 shows net fire premiums amounting to £1,940,195; net fire losses, £970,998; surplus on fire account (excluding interest amounting to £120,733) to £323,720. The announcement is made that the directors have thought it wise, in view of the disaster at San Francisco, and in part payment of losses thereby incurred, to carry to a special suspense account a sum of £250,000. This leaves £479,939 to be carried forward, as against £486,923 at the end of 1904. No definite information had yet been obtained as to the company's loss at San Francisco, but it could be stated that it would not be necessary to draw upon the company's fire reserves.

The experiment of starting **a Massachusetts life insurance company without agents** will not be tried this year, inasmuch as the Senate of that Commonwealth last Monday adopted the report of the legislative insurance committee for "reference to the next General Court" on the measure seeking the incorporation of such an organization. As Massachusetts has no general law for the formation of life insurance companies, a special charter was asked for. It is, however, expected that the recess committee on insurance legislation will recommend such a general law for enactment next winter, under which the projectors of the Bay State Mutual Life may have a chance to try again, if they still feel so inclined.

The **Fidelity Fire insurance company of New York** is being organized by interests identified with the Continental insurance company. It will have $1,000,000 capital, with a paid in surplus of $1,000,000 and a fund which will be credited to the unearned premium account of $250,000. It is understood that the stock will be offered to the present Continental stockholders share for share. The management of the Fidelity Fire will be under the direction of Henry Evans, president of the Continental insurance company, in the Continental Building, and the Western department will be operated with the Continental's by Vice President George E. Kline. The company will be ready for business in a few weeks.

That **a bigamous wife**, the beneficiary of a $1,000 policy in the Maccabees, is entitled to the insurance on her husband's life was decided last week in the Supreme Court at Columbus, Ohio, when the case of Sarah M. Styre vs. Clara A. Star came up for review. The decision sustained the lower courts. The plaintiff was the legal wife of the deceased, who married Clara A. Star under the name of J. Star and made her the beneficiary in his insurance policy. Because of this the court found for the defendant, in spite of the fact that the man in the case had never secured a divorce from his first helpmate, thus upholding the policy contract.

On Monday the **Old Colony (fire) insurance company of Boston**, capital, $400,000; surplus, $200,000, was organized with these directors: William H. Hill, Ransom B. Fuller, Charles W. Morse, James W. Dunphy, Calvin Austin, James T. Morse, Wallace F. Robinson, Nathaniel J. Rust and William T. Cobb. The directors met Wednesday and chose the following officers: President, Ransom B. Fuller; vice presidents, W. R. Hedge, Edmund Winchester; secretary, John S. Bridges, Jr.; assistant secretary, Charles D. Hodges. The stock allotments are to be paid for by June 1, and the company expects to start in business before July 1.

Rutland, Vt., is the headquarters of the **Vermont Accident insurance company**, organized recently by Rutland County capitalists to do an accident, health and indemnity business. A copy of its bylaws was filed with the Secretary of State on May 16. The capital is $10,000, divided into 100 shares, with a par value of $100 each. The officers are as follows: Eugene McIntyre, Danby, president; Earle S. Kinsley, Rutland, vice president; Clifford C. Fletcher, secretary and treasurer. Dividends are limited to 7 per cent., and no policyholder can have an assessment liability of more than the amount of one premium.

In introducing the article by **Dr. William A. Fricke** on New York State insurance legislation, to its readers, *Moody's Magazine* for May said:

> Mr. Fricke is admittedly one of the ablest men in the insurance world. As Commissioner of Insurance in Wisconsin, he made a record of which any man might feel proud. As author, speaker, writer and actuary, he is the peer of any of his contemporaries. Other insurance experts may, and do, reach different conclusions, but none questions his ability or his honesty of purpose. His entire independence of all companies and of all special interests add strength to his criticism. All policyholders should not only read, they should study his article. To know it is an insurance education.

In the criminal branch of the New York Supreme Court on Wednesday Justice Scott granted the motion to inspect the minutes of the grand jury in the **case of William A. Brewer, Jr.**, former president of the Washington Life insurance company, who was indicted for perjury and misdemeanor by the April grand jury. There were two indictments for perjury and one for misdemeanor in connection with the alleged filing of false reports with the State Insurance Department. The motion to inspect the minutes was made recently before Justice Scott by William Rand, Jr., Mr. Brewer's counsel.

According to London cable dispatches the willingness of the North British and Mercantile **to wreck the British department of the Mutual Life** of New York has caused unfavorable comment in the London press. The North British has announced that its offer to the policyholders of the Mutual Life for the transfer of their policies will be withdrawn on June 9. Mr. Hogge, manager for the Mutual Life, states that many of the policyholders in that company who withdrew their policies have returned. He adds that numerous testimonials of confidence continue to be received.

That a fire insurance **rate advance** has been determined upon **for New England** was announced to the members of the Exchange at Boston last Saturday, but the degree and manner of said advance will not be promulgated until the local boards at Boston and Providence have acted upon the matter of increasing premium rates. A form of free permit for tobacco curing, in consideration of certain warranties by the assured, was adopted; also a form permitting, under certain conditions, the use of the Hillman curer for a charge of 15 cents per $100 additional.

The London *Finance Chronicle* says of the San Francisco losses of the **Sun Fire Office:**

> The Sun Insurance Office has had a very profitable year's business. The premiums amounted to £1,319,330, the losses were 45.8 per cent., and the expenses 35.2 per cent., and after providing a reserve of 40 per cent. for current policies there remained a balance of £340,900 to carry to profit

and loss account. The total reserves, apart from capital, amount to £2,548,639. Respecting the San Francisco losses, the directors say that "the possible liability of the office cannot materially exceed the balance carried to profit and loss after payment of dividends, while the actual loss must fall short of that amount. No special provision is therefore necessary."

The charter of the **People's Fire insurance company** of **New York** has been approved by the Attorney General and filed in the office of the Superintendent of Insurance. The following persons are named as directors for the first year: James A. Wylie, William Durst, Daniel Woodcock, Edward H. Faulkner, Hugh Talbot, Ernest P. Burritt, Joseph Faulkner, David K. Case, John B. Sabine, Edward Floyd, George R. Weed, C. R. Swaney, A. J. Willetts and D. W. Swaney. As soon as the necessary capital is secured the company will do a regular agency business.

The **Cosmopolitan Fire insurance company** of New York has been organized by Adolph Loeb & Sons, and articles of incorporation have been filed in New York showing the company to have a $300,000 capital and a surplus of $150,000. The funds are invested in Government and New York city bonds and other securities. The company will enter all the principal States, and will begin to write about June 1. Adolph Loeb is president and Leo A. Loeb vice president. The general agents for the United States will be Adolph Loeb & Co., of Chicago.

Reports from adjusters on the ground say that the **fireproof buildings at San Francisco** are in bad shape, and that the loss to insurance companies on them will be practically total. Many of them look all right from the outside, but inside the steel has buckled, the steel lathing is gone, and conditions are generally unfavorable. Estimated on a basis of 90 per cent. coinsurance, which is much higher than most of them carry, the salvage on seven of the largest buildings is estimated at not more than 10 per cent.

The past year was the most successful year in the history of the **Liverpool and London and Globe** insurance company of Liverpool, says the London *Finance Chronicle*. The net fire premiums on its world's business amounted to £2,199,100. The net losses absorbed 48.5 per cent., while the outgo for commission, expenses and State taxes was in the moderate ratio of 33.6 per cent., thus leaving the profit of 17.9 per cent., or £393,705. The fire fund at the beginning of the year amounted to £2,300,000.

The Western department of the German American Fire has **attached the funds of the American Fire of Philadelphia** in the Western Factory Insurance Association, under a garnishment claim. The American had reinsured the German American on a Denver risk, which burned, and it failed to settle. When the company reinsured, the remaining funds which could be got at were those in the asssociation, and as the American had resigned from it, prompt action was taken to levy on the funds.

The **Shawnee Fire insurance company of Topeka,** Kan., at a meeting of directors and stockholders held May 19, voted to increase the capital stock from $100,000 to $200,000, selling the stock at $200 a share and adding $100,000 to the net surplus. This raises the assets of the Shawnee to $1,000,000, and will permit it to enter several States from which it has been debarred by its $100,000 capital. The Shawnee had no losses at San Francisco, and is preparing to profit by its position.

Reports from the Western departments of the fire insurance companies show that the loss by the **recent forest fires in Michigan** and Wisconsin towns was not very heavy on the companies, owing to the fact that the rates were prohibitive, and so little insurance was carried. Union companies represented in a few big agencies at Marquette, Houghton and Escanaba, which write mill and mining business, had the bulk of the risks.

The handsomely maintained suite on the third floor of the **Flatiron Building,** at Twenty-third street, New York city, for which the **Equitable Life** has been paying $30,000 a year on a ten year lease, has been vacated, and President Morton has announced that the floor will be sublet and a considerable saving to the policyholders will result. These quarters were used as a gathering place for agents during the Hyde-Alexander management.

After July 1 Hall & Henshaw will cease the control of the New York **city department of the Atlas of London,** and the Atlas and the city department of the New York Underwriters' Agency will join hands, so far as the city business goes, under Manager Curtis C. Wayland, of the New York Underwriters' city department. This department stopped writing in the congested district of New York some weeks ago, as previously announced.

The California insurance law holding **stockholders** of fire insurance companies **responsible for losses** by fire applies to non-State as well as local companies, as will appear by the following clause in Section 322 of the civil code:

The liability of each stockholder of a corporation formed under the laws of any other State or Territory of the United States, or of any foreign country and doing business within this State, is the same as the liability of a stockholder of a corporation created under the constitution and laws of this State.

The supreme lodge of the **Court of Honor** has changed its insurance system by providing for a level rate based on the age of entrance, continuing until age sixty, when a flat rate of $4.42 per month per $1,000 becomes effective. The rates are those of the National Fraternal Congress. An option of a low-rate, ten-year term contract was also provided, with a sick and accident department for beneficiary members only.

A pink slip **advance of 15 cents** is to be imposed **at Charleston, W. Va.,** for inadequacy of the waterworks system. The increase was to have been 35 cents, but a credit of 15 cents was allowed for improvement in the fire department and 5 cents for additional water mains in West Charleston. The waterworks company refused to make the improvements required, and the pink slip was put on to expedite its action.

That the new rates of the **Royal Arcanum** are not only lawful, but are called for by the condition of the order, has been settled by the full bench of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, which on Friday of last week handed down a decision dismissing the case brought to restrain the governing body from enforcing the new rates, on the contention that the original contract of membership is thus violated.

The St. Paul business houses which have equipped their risks with **automatic sprinklers** have begun suit to test the right of the city water department to force the payment of a meter fee for the sprinkler service. The proposed meter rates are so high that underwriters fear that if they submit to the charge it will discourage the installation of such improvements.

A flywheel in the factory of the Derby Desk Company, Somerville, Mass., burst Monday morning, completely ruining the 350 horse power engine and practically demolishing the engine. This casualty should be a powerful object lesson to

stimulate the enactment of a bill now before the Massachusetts Legislature to authorize the transaction of flywheel insurance in that State.

The executive committee of the **National Association of Life Underwriters,** at its semi-annual meeting in the city of New York on Tuesday, decided to call **the next annual convention** of the association, to be held at St. Louis, on October 23, 24 and 25 next. New associations at Montreal, Denver, Savannah and Lincoln, Neb., have been enrolled, and the total membership of the National Association is now forty-nine. Five other local associations are forming.

By vote of its directors the **Empire State Surety Company** will increase its capital stock from $500,000 to $750,000. An additional surplus fund of $125,000 will be created by the sale of the new stock at 150 per cent., which, according to President Tomlins, will place the company on a sound basis to compete for business. The new funds are to be paid in June 15.

After a hearing on the petition filed by the Attorney General the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, on Friday of last week, appointed ex-Senator F. W. Dallinger, of Cambridge, as receiver for the **American Birth insurance company of Boston.** The receiver is under a $10,000 bond to administer the assets of the company, which are understood to be between $5,000 and $7,000.

At a recent meeting of the directors of the **Guarantee Life of Houston,** Tex., the following officers were elected: Jonathan Lane, president; John H. Thompson, first vice president and general manager; A. P. Root, second vice president; Charles Schreiner, third vice president; Charles Boedeker, secretary and treasurer; J. F. Wolters, general attorney.

The Cincinnati *Enquirer* makes the statement that one of the first matters which will engage the attention of Governor John M. Pattison when he regains his health will be a plan for the **mutualization of the Union Central Life insurance company.** The examination of the company by the Wisconsin Insurance Commission is still in progress.

Salvage from the San Francisco fire, in the shape of fountain pens, the remnants of a stock of $33,000, by the way, was displayed in a Broadway show window this week. There was little left but a gummy and distorted mass. If this is a fair sample of what may be saved to the fire insurance companies, little can be credited to the salvage account.

Accident insurance of $17,000 has been paid by the Travelers of Hartford to Annie Lochs, the girl employed in a New York handkerchief factory whose **scalp was torn off in an accident.** She was employed at the factory at $2 a week. This is claimed to be the largest sum paid to a factory hand for such injuries sustained while at work.

The **International Policyholders' Association,** run by the Bowles-Lawson-Untermyer combination, is sending out hundreds of thousands of circular letters to policyholders in all parts of the world, enclosing a card asking them to check off the companies in which they hold policies. These cards are to be returned and will be kept in a card index.

The Hartford Fire will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary in **the Sanborn agency at Galesburg, Ill.,** on June 16. David Sanborn, father of Mayor Luke W. Sanborn, the present agent, opened an agency in Galesburg in 1851, and took on the Hartford June 16, 1856, the first policy written for it being still in the possession of Mr. Sanborn.

Surety companies operating in Iowa have engaged in a rate war over notaries' bonds, which are renewed July 1, running for three years, in the sum of $500 each. The American Surety Company offered to write bonds at $1 for three years, and when the United States Fidelity and Guaranty met this rate the American cut it to 50 cents.

Additional capital for the **Hanover Fire insurance company** of New York is expected to be arranged for at the next meeting of the board of directors. The proposition is to reduce the present capital, which is $1,000,000, to $500,000, and then issue $500,000 new capital at 150. This would give $250,000 to the surplus account.

A **new Sanborn map of San Francisco** has been issued, giving the exact details on the limits of the burned district. A number of companies have discovered salvages of from $10,000 to $50,000 on risks which they had at first included, because of the previous lack of detail in the limits of the fire.

The **New York Board of Fire Underwriters** held its annual meeting on Monday, and elected the new officers and committees reported by the committee on nominations and printed in our issue of last week. President Alexander H. Wray assumed his new duties gracefully and benignly.

Two Little Rock local fire insurance companies, the Arkansas and the Capital Fire, have consolidated under the latter title. The officers under the merger are: W. R. Miller, president; James R. Fones, vice president; G. B. Sawyer, secretary and manager.

The **Canadian Insurance Commission,** appointed to investigate the workings of the hail insurance companies of Manitoba, is composed of the following: R. McKensie, chairman; Edward Kerr, S. Benson, George Leary, provincial auditor, secretary.

The German American instructed W. W. Ross, its agent at Butler, Mo., to cancel an outside dwelling policy, but he failed to do so and a loss occurred. **The company** paid the loss, **sued the agent,** and has been given judgment for $400 and interest.

Articles have been filed incorporating the **Kentucky Inter-Southern Life insurance company** of Louisville, Ky., with a $250,000 capital, of which $100,000 is surplus. The charter gives the company the privilege of increasing its capital to $500,000.

The **New Jersey Fire insurance company** of Camden, recently organized, has been admitted to New York State. Its capital is $200,000, and its net surplus $50,000. Loeb & Barry, of No. 2 Liberty street, New York city, are the New York agents.

Three blocks of stock of the **Phenix of Brooklyn** sold this week respectively at $304, $305 and $306 per share, which indicates how strong is the confidence in this great company, notwithstanding its heavy losses at San Francisco.

The **Life Underwriters' Association of Grand Rapids,** Mich., gave a banquet at the Lakeside Club on the evening of May 21, with addresses by Congressman William Alden Smith and C. M. Cartwright, of the *Western Underwriter.*

The **Northern Life insurance company** of Illinois has been chartered, with a proposed capital stock of $300,000. Lee F.

Cole, formerly with the New York Life and the Northwestern Mutual, is to be secretary and manager.

By invitation of the **Life Underwriters' Association of Montreal,** President Scovel, of the National Association of Life Underwriters, will be present at a banquet in Montreal to be given by the local association on June 22.

The Illinois State Board of Underwriters has had a rule requiring that **private barns, written separately from dwellings,** should pay a rate 25 cents higher than the dwelling. This has now been repealed.

At the meeting of the stockholders of the **Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania,** held in Philadelphia on Wednesday, the meeting adjourned without reducing capital, which stands at $400,000.

The annual meeting of the **Mississippi Fire Underwriters' Association** will be held June 6 on board the steamer Belle of the Bends, starting from Vicksburg and going to Greenville and return.

The **Southern Mutual insurance company** will build an eight story structure at Athens, Ga., and President Phinizy has been authorized by the board of directors to have an architect draw up plans.

The stockholders of the **National Surety Company** held a special meeting Wednesday at the home office in the New York Life Building, at which changes were made in the bylaws.

At the convention of the Massachusetts Catholic **Order of Foresters,** at Springfield, Wednesday, action was taken raising the emergency fund dues from 50 cents to $1 per capita.

The Western Factory Insurance Association has been given the $200,000 **line on the West Michigan Furniture Company** at Holland, Mich., heretofore written in the mutuals.

An assessment of $50 a share has been ordered by the board of directors of the **Teutonia of New Orleans** to provide ample funds for paying San Francisco losses.

The congestion of values on **the water front at Duluth** is increasing so rapidly that an agitation has been begun for a fireboat to cost $75,000.

Two new aerial trucks, a combination ladder truck and a fire engine, all of the latest patterns, are being built for the **Boston fire department.**

Notice of the **dissolution of the Alamo Fire insurance company** of San Antonio, Tex., has been filed with the Texas Insurance Department.

With the close of the present year the **Mutual Benefit Life insurance company** will discontinue the issuing of non-participating policies.

The **Dubuque Fire and Marine** has been licensed in Michigan and also in Missouri, with E. M. Davis, of St. Louis, as general agent.

The **Mutual Reserve Life** has ceased doing business in Great Britain.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

American of Newark: Gordon & Hoadley, managers of Pacific department, in place of Gordon & Frazer, with headquarters at Oakland, Cal.

German Fire of Wheeling, W. Va.: James G. Maconachy, late of the American of Philadelphia, special agent for New York State.

Germania Fire of New York: Paul A. Wendland, special agent for Cook County, Ill.

Home Fire of Phœnix, Ariz.: W. L. Pettibone, of New York, general agent east of the Mississippi for surplus lines.

Michigan Fire and Marine: M. H. Hawxhurst, formerly with the Traders, special agent for Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota, with headquarters at Milwaukee.

New Jersey Fire of Camden (admitted to Massachusetts on Wednesday): R. S. Hoffman & Co., Boston, Mass.; Delesdernier & Jones, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Northwestern Mutual Life: W. H. Surles, general agent for Wisconsin and Northern Michigan, succeeding the late D. W. Murphy.

Ocean Assurance Corporation; Frazer & Armstrong, general agents at Dallas, Tex.; Wallace M. Reid & Co., succeeding Behrens & Co., at Pittsburgh, Pa.

Philadelphia Casualty Company: Joseph D. Malcolmson, Harlem agent at 215 West 125th street.

United States Casualty: Wilson V. Otto, general agent for personal accident and health lines at Pittsburgh.

Mr. George E. McNeill, manager and treasurer of the Massachusetts Mutual Accident Association of Boston, which he organized in 1883, died last Saturday evening at a private hospital in West Somerville, Mass. His death followed an operation, which was necessitated by an intestinal trouble that had suddenly developed the day before, and afforded a slight chance of recovery. Mr. McNeill was a man of marked personality, and the foremost champion of labor in New England, where he was known as "the father of the eight hour movement." As a journalist and writer he did much to improve industrial conditions, and while tenacious of what he believed to be right, his influence was ever cast for moderation and a square deal. His colleagues of the accident insurance business held his character and intelligence in high esteem. He leaves four children, one of whom, Mr. G. Leonard McNeill, is the secretary of the Massachusetts Mutual Accident.

Vice President Walter Collyer Faxon, of the Ætna Life's accident and liability department, celebrated his thirty-second anniversary in the accident insurance business Wednesday, and received the congratulations and good wishes of his friends on the happy occasion. Mr. Faxon was born in Hartford, July 18, 1856, and after graduating from the public school in 1874, began his insurance career in the office of the Travelers, where he remained till 1891, when he went with the Ætna Life as assistant secretary. He became secretary in 1902, and vice president in 1905. Mr. Faxon is one of the best and most favorably known accident underwriters in the United States.

Mr. William J. Armistead, a Hagerstown, Md., insurance man, was found dead in the bath tub of his home there May 18, after being confined to his house for a week. Death was due to heart failure. The deceased, who was forty-five years of age, represented the accident and liability departments of the Ætna Life and the ordinary branch of the Prudential.

Mr. William R. Wilson, manager for the Washington Life for Colorado, came East as the delegate of the Colorado Association of Life Underwriters at the banquet given at the Hotel Savoy Tuesday night by the Life Underwriters' Association of New York to the executive committee of the National Association.

Mr. Howard Bonsall, till recently connected with the Northwestern Mutual Life at Denver, Col, has accepted the agency of the National Life of the U. S. A., with headquarters in Denver. Mr. Bonsall is claimed to be the youngest manager of an important agency in the country, being but twenty-six years of age.

Messrs. Daniel Woodcock & Co., 19 Liberty street, New York, have been appointed general agents for the Eastern and Middle States, and for the writing of surplus lines throughout the United States for the New State Fire insurance company of South McAlister, Ind. Ter., and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Mr. Edson S. Lott, general manager of the United States Casualty Company, and assistant general manager D. G. Luckett represented the International Association of Accident Underwriters at the funeral of President George E. McNeill, of the Massachusetts Mutual Accident, held in Boston Tuesday.

Mr. Paul Jacobi, assistant manager of the Prussian National at the home office, sails for this country May 24. His visit is not wholly because of the San Francisco conflagration, as he had intended to come this spring.

Vice President Emory McClintock, of the Mutual Life insurance company, sailed for Europe on the Kaiser Wilhelm II on Wednesday. He will visit England and France in the interests of his company.

Mr. J. M. Wemstrom, from the home office of the Svea of Gothenburg, Sweden, was a passenger by the Celtic, arriving from Europe on last Sunday. He departed for San Francisco the following day.

Mr. J. Oscar Vaute, for many years cashier of the New York Life, who recently retired on half pay, shot himself dead at his home at Montclair, N. J., May 18. He was sixty-five years of age.

Mr. T. L. Wilson, formerly of the Maryland Casualty Company, has joined the New York office of the People's Surety Company, where he will have charge of the burglary department.

Mr. Ernest Poindexter, of the American Surety Company, who recently joined the New York office, has left for Washington, which will be his

headquarters while looking after the interests of the company's inspection department in Virginia and South Carolina.

Mr. N. B. Jones, for twenty years special agent for the American of Philadelphia in Michigan, has been appointed special agent for the W. B. Bierce general agency at Detroit.

Mr. Roy McLeod, a Pottsville, Pa., insurance agent, died at his home there of consumption of the bowels May 11.

Manager Frank Lock, of the Atlas of London, will sail for the other side by the Deutschland on Thursday next.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., May 24.—The House this forenoon referred to the next Legislature, without opposition, the bill (House No. 1331) relative to fraternal insurance, which was substituted for so much of the larger bill to correct omissions in the Revised Laws as related to that topic. It was a bill which came from the Judiciary Committee, and Chairman Lowell, of Newton, of that committee, said that it was a matter of importance which ought to receive further attention, and as the matter could wait till next session it was better to postpone it, and this was done.

The House concurred with the Senate in accepting the report of the Committee on Insurance, reference to the next Legislature, on the petition of George M. Palmer and others for incorporation as the American Life insurance company of Boston, and reference to the next Legislature on the report of the commission appointed under Chapter 11 of the resolves of this year to recodify the insurance laws of the State.

The Senate has accepted without debate the report of the Insurance Committee that the report of the commission appointed under Chapter 11 of the resolves of 1906 to recodify the insurance laws be referred to the next Legislature.

Miscellany.

May Meeting of the Life Underwriters' Association of New York—Entertainment of the Executive Committee of the National Association.

The Life Underwriters' Association of New York held its monthly meeting at the Hotel Savoy on Tuesday, and followed it with a banquet in the evening, at which the members of the executive committee of the National Association of Life Underwriters, which has been in semi-annual session in New York this week, were the guests, together with Charles E. Hughes, counsel of the late Armstrong Committee; Justice O'Brien, of the Supreme Court; Vice President Fisk, of the Metropolitan Life, and others.

Some three hundred members of the local association were present at the banquet, which was presided over by President T. R. Fell. He made a speech of welcome to the national executive committee, to which a response was made by Secretary E. J. Clark, of the committee.

SPEECH OF CHARLES E. HUGHES.

The principal speaker at the dinner was Mr. Hughes. He said:

What has been disclosed was bound some day to be disclosed, and the abuses that existed demanded attention and rectification. I shall not speak tonight of the wider influences of the investigation, of the quickening of the sense of fiduciary obligations, and of the promises that have been justly placed upon the important standards of business probity, but, looking at the life insurance business in particular, we find that attention has been given in a marked and proper degree as a result of the investigation to the interests of the policyholder, and so, fundamentally, the question was presented as to the proper control of our great life insurance companies. According to the law of their being, they are not autocratic or oligarchic; they are democratic, and nothing is of greater importance than that everyone connected with the administration of a mutual company should realize, first and always, his responsibility to the policyholders, who are the beneficiaries of his work.

It has been forgetfulness of that responsibility and a sense of autocracy and of despotic power which has created the evils which it has been the endeavor of the Legislature to end. It is not desirable that there should be continued agitation with regard to those who shall be charged with the responsibility of management; it is far from desirable that an opportunity should be given to any persons who have simply selfish interests to obtain control of these vast accumulations and these important interests. But it is desirable that those who conduct these businesses should always act, being in fact as they are in theory the ministers of the members, the servants of the policyholders, appointed to carry out the just wishes of the policyholders, owing their places to the choice of the policyholders, and knowing no master and no motive but the true interests of the policyholders.

It is important that the trustees of our mutual companies and of those companies that profess to act upon a mutual basis should hold their office by proper title, and I believe it will be found that under the conditions that are enforced by the legislation recently enacted conservatism will prevail; that those only will be entrusted with these important duties who are worthy of the confidence. In no other way can I conceive the choice to be made, when those who are voted for stand exposed to public criticism for a period of several months. By limiting the votes to those which are cast for duly nominated and publicly proclaimed candidates we have every assurance that the business of these great companies will be put in the hands of those who will duly conserve them.

ENDEAVOR TO PUT THE BUSINESS ON A PROPER FOUNDATION.

It has been the endeavor to put the insurance business on its own footing, to divorce it from other businesses with which it has no proper relation, and to establish it as an insurance business upon a proper foundation. An important man in insurance circles told me the other day that one of the great sources of wrongdoing had been ambition for financial power. The first duty of a trustee of a life insurance company is to conserve the interests of his company and not to become a financial magnate. It is his duty to see that the funds of the company are properly invested, with due regard to ordinary and safe criteria of investment by indirect means not contemplated by the charter of his company to seek means of profit, and which have as collateral advantages.

Profitable indeed have been many of the undertakings of our great companies; large sums have been made through the connections that have been established with subsidiary institutions, but it is not the function of a life insurance company to seek out and, directly or indirectly, control businesses which may possibly yield profit, with the advantages which many of those interested in our life insurance companies have enjoyed. Large profits undoubtedly could have been made by common stock speculation. The line of safety for the life insurance company is the line marked out by the law; it is the line of prudent investment; it is the line of maintaining the life insurance business as a life insurance business; it is the line which will be followed by those who have an eye single to that business and not to other undertakings which promise larger benefits for themselves.

It has also been sought to divorce the life insurance business from politics. There is no reason why the life insurance companies should be banded together in a systematic effort to control a large part of the legislation of this State or of other States. There is no reason why, for fear of mischief through legislation, there should be an oblique approach to legislators.

It was the sentiment that the management constituted the company, that protection to the policyholders was synonymous to the management, that the maintenance of a certain system of certain methods was identified with the maintenance of the prosperity of the company, that led to many things which all thinking men deplore. No institution is better situated, so far as a proper presentation of its needs to the Legislature is concerned. If the Legislature insists upon passing laws that are inimicable to the life insurance company, let the unjust and injurious results be disclosed. Why should the management representing the policyholders seek by indirect and improper means to prevent the disclosure? The observation of the working of an unjust law will do more to procure its repeal than any amount of its effort can properly do in the direction in which

it has hitherto been expended to protect the interest of the policyholders.

I hope a precedent has been established during the past few months for honorable dealing with the Legislature. I hope the precedent will be regarded in the future, not only by insurance companies, but by other companies whose interest may be affected by adverse legislation.

It has also been sought to promote economy of management. Now, gentlemen, these people demand and will insist upon economic administration. The interests of the life insurance agents must square with the just rights of the policyholders. The cost of obtaining new business must be measured by what reasonably can be expended for that purpose. It is idle to inveigh against it. It is fatuous to oppose it. The people demand it. And that reform has come to stay. And I think it will be found that the conservative agent who writes business that remains upon the books, that the man who has the confidence of his constituency and obtains the right sort of risks, will be the gainer and not the loser by the legislation that has been enacted.

An improper stimulus to the writing of business causing an excessive rivalry between companies with the tendency to place emphasis on misleading totals only works in the end a reaction, and inevitably brings about large losses of business, and entails expenses which, from a proper point of view, the company cannot afford to meet.

THE LIMITATION OF BUSINESS.

Now, it would not be proper for me, within the limits of such a time as this, to attempt to deal in detail with the various remedies that have been enacted or provided for by enactments to accomplish the result. It has been deemed wise to limit the amount of business which should be written by certain companies, whose business already reach a very high figure. It was deemed wise because those institutions had already grown beyond the points which many conservative students of life insurance affairs thought proper as the limit of their growth in years gone by. The problems of investment, many of them problems which are inseparable from the business of these institutions, become almost insoluble when they grow to such a large extent. But I have been told by men who know, men interested in these companies of which I have spoken, that under the limitations which have been imposed, and which they believe to be wise, those companies will show results in the next two or three years which will be most gratifying to the public as a whole and to their policyholders in particular.

And on account of the limitation imposed upon the great companies, it was deemed wise that there should be some limitation upon the smaller companies, although the limits were fixed without such liberality as to perfect any degree of growth which they had heretofore had and something over. It was only the desire, not that they should not grow, but that they should grow normally; that there should be no reflex action on account of this legislation which should prove hurtful to them.

I have no sympathy with a desire to go into the details of expense and show what amount shall be paid for this or that. The Insurance Committee did not advise that the Legislature should say that a salary must not exceed this amount or that amount. It did deem it wise to provide that no compensation over a certain amount should be paid, unless the board of directors passed upon it.

It was thought that the legislation, if sound, would win upon its merits, and that is what I believe in. If we are to have, as I hope we shall have, substantial uniformity in legislation upon these important questions in our various jurisdictions that uniformity is to be obtained by having a programme of such merit that it will deserve and obtain respect. But I believe, gentlemen, that the New York companies have nothing to fear from the fact that the legislation has been in many respects limited to them. I would rather take insurance in a New York company compelled to transact business under these restrictions than in any company not so restricted, and I believe that will be the sentiment of these United States.

OTHER STATE COMPANIES.

We wish no unfair advantage for the companies that are chartered by the State of New York, but it has been intended that the companies that are chartered by this State, where the State is responsible for the good conduct of their business, that those companies should be compelled to do business under such restrictions and on such conditions as to protect the interests of the policyholders.

I find the sentiment that imbues the men who are here tonight is we want this business established upon a secure foundation beyond peradventure; we want the people to know that it is being conducted without any of the abuses that formerly existed; we want the good things about life insurance to stand out; we want everything that is bad to be disposed of and ended; and that sentiment is sure to prevail in proper measure of legislation, whenever the question comes up for discussion.

We have been fortunate, despite the extravagances that have been disclosed, despite the evils that have been seen, in having great solvent institutions brought under our observation. We have had great companies exposed to close and unsparing analysis, only to find that their solidity was as the rock of Gibraltar. It has been said and was said frequently in the courts of investigation: "You are not paying much attention to the good things of life insurance." Read the report of the insurance committee. You will find throughout that report a statement of the increase of business of the assets, of the liabilities, of the reserves, of all those matters which enter into a proper consideration of their true standing.

But now that the operation has been performed there was no hesitancy, but great pleasure and pride in stating in the report of the committee that the questions that had been discussed were not those which affected solvency, but those which affected administration—not that the one should be emphasized for the purpose of obscuring evils in management, not that any one, as has been the practice in the past, should skulk behind enormous aggregates of business and assets to conceal corruption! No, but that there should be a fair understanding of the prosperity of and solidity of the companies on the one hand and unsparing condemnation of what was wrong in their management on the other.

Justice O'Brien, who followed Mr. Hughes, said that it would be both impossible and improper for him to comment on either the substance or the result of the new insurance laws, but he laid down the proposition as fundamental that it was the duty of good citizens to obey the law, knowing that the surest way to be rid of such laws as might be unwise was to have them enforced.

"No man," said Justice O'Brien, "need feel that there is any injury to be done by the enactment of laws, because if they are shown to be unwise it is easy to have them repealed; and we may be sure, even if it seems to some of you that these laws are somewhat hard, that as they shall finally stand and be interpreted they will conserve the vested rights of all."

The other speakers were Haley Fiske, vice president of the Metropolitan Life, and Rev. Dr. Donald Sage Mackay. The presence of the new Insurance Superintendent, Otto Kelsey, was promised, but he did not appear, nor did the presiding officer read any communication from him.

Annual Meeting of the Commercial Union of London—Arrangements to Meet the California Situation.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Commercial Union Assurance Company was held May 9 at the head offices in London, with the chairman of the directors, Mr. John Trotter, presiding.

The directors reported the net premiums in the fire department in 1905 to have been £2,074,789, being an increase of £107,077 as compared with 1904, and the losses paid and outstanding to have been £937,920, or 45.2 per cent. of the premium income. From the profits of this department the sum of £165,000 had been carried to profit and loss. After providing for all outstanding losses on January 1 the fire fund stood at £2,248,679, as against £1,983,004 at the same time the previous year.

In commenting on the California losses of the company the chairman said:

When the Commercial Union adopted the National Board form in 1888, in view of the fact that earthquake was referred to in the original policy, we inserted the word "earthquake" in the new form, and the clause read: "This company shall not be liable for loss caused directly or indirectly by invasion, earthquake, insurrection," etc. This form of policy was afterward replaced by what is known as the New York Standard form, when the same wording was maintained by us. We do not at present admit any liability, and you may rely upon our giving fullest consideration to the question at issue before we commit the company to any

course of action. In no case will we pay away any considerable amount of money for claims in respect of which we may be advised that the company is not legally liable, unless we are fully convinced that it is in the interest of the business that such payments should be made. Our aggregate sum insured in the destroyed area is about £1,000,000, and possibly a trifle over, so far as can be ascertained, but as to what proportion is damaged by earthquake and by fire respectively, or what proportion we should be liable for under our policies, we have at present no information. We have taken legal opinion, and if the question had to be decided by English law it is clear that we should be under no liability whatever, but it may be different in California, and questions of fact will also doubtless arise when the matter is threshed out on the spot.

In any case, if there be any considerable loss, a large share would be paid from the year's income, and if that is not sufficient, then the fire and reserve funds, amounting to nearly £2,500,000, would have to contribute; still the company's financial position would not be materially affected, and its capacity for earning profits would remain unimpaired. One consoling fact is already apparent; that is, that the San Francisco fire has greatly improved the rates in America generally, and there is little doubt that, whether we have to pay little or much, we shall get it all back from improved business in the near future. An opportunity afforded itself of reinsuring the American of Philadelphia, a very old office, established in 1810, with a premium income of about £350,000, with first class and conservative local connections in Philadelphia, and as we were able to secure it on advantageous terms, we did not hesitate to complete the transaction. We have also had other offers, but as they were not attractive we did not entertain them.

National Fire Protection Association—Tenth Annual Meeting.

The tenth annual meeting of the National Fire Protection Association, composed of the fire protection experts and insurance engineers of the United States and Canada, was held at the Auditorium at Chicago on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week. President Charles A. Hexamer occupied the chair. In his address he spoke of the growth of the organization in these terms:

Comparing the first meeting in New York city, when there were present at the deliberation hardly a score of persons, with the last annual convention, when the average attendance at the meetings was upward of 250, it is evident that the work taken up by the few in 1896 will not fail to reach the desired results by the efforts of the many in 1906. It was to be expected, due to the great disaster the fire insurance interest in the United States has suffered in San Francisco a month ago, that the attendance at the annual convention of this year would be reduced; in fact, the question of postponement of this meeting until the fall was discussed. It is the more gratifying to find that this, the opening meeting of the 1906 convention, indicates an attendance of members as great as at New York last year. The present membership of the association is: Active members, 50; associate members, 713, and subscribing members, 238.

An address in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the association was delivered by Uberto C. Crosby, its first president. He said in part:

By our articles of association we are prohibited from consideration of fire insurance rates or agency commissions. Our object is to "promote the science and improve the methods of fire protection." In doing this we serve the best interests of fire insurance companies and the insured as well. Our interests are mutual, and in uniting our forces in the consideration of hazards and the best forms of construction and protection we are working for our mutual advantage. Every fire insurance underwriter, every insurance agent, every property owner should be a member of this association, giving support to our work, and at the same time receiving the benefit of our publications.

I wish I might indulge in personalities; I would mention by name my old associates and comrades with whom I worked many years ago. I would like to refer to our president and his splendid record with this association. I would like especially to refer to the faithful and intelligent work of our secretaries and of our various committees, but time will not permit. You have all, everyone, served with rare intelligence, ability and enthusiasm, and have in part the satisfaction of faithful service, and, in addition, the knowledge that you have builded the most successful, the most prosperous, by far the best known and most successful organization in the world having for its object the best protection of life and property from destruction by fire. As I think of the conditions existing in 1896 as compared with the present, I marvel at the work you have accomplished, and yet why should I wonder? It is a work by men of ability, full of enthusiasm, who have labored faithfully through all the years intervening to work out the problems suggested, yet but dimly understood by its founders. That your future will be progressive and brilliant I do not doubt. I wish for you, one and all, the coming year much success and prosperity, and to the National Fire Protection Association large increase in membership and usefulness.

During the three days' sessions reports were read as follows from special committees through their chairmen: "Special Hazards and Fire Records," Henry A. Fiske, Hartford; "Devices and Materials," W. C. Robinson, Chicago; "Theatre Standards," Gorham Davis, Boston; "Fireproof Construction," F. E. Cabot, Boston; "Car Houses," C. H. Patton, Cleveland; "Matches," G. P. Davis, New York; "Cement for Building Construction," E. T. Cairns, New York; "Uniformity of Requirements," H. E. Hess, New York; "Skylights," Robert Palm, Verona, N. J.

The following officers were elected for 1906-7: President, C. A. Hexamer, Philadelphia; vice president, William A. Anderson, New York; secretary and treasurer, W. H. Merrill, Chicago; executive committee, E. U. Crosby, Philadelphia, Pa., chairman; Albert Blauvelt, Chicago; F. E. Cabot, Boston; C. H. Campbell, Charlotte, N. C.; E. B. Creighton, Philadelphia; H. A. Glidden, Chicago; C. M. Goddard, Boston; H. C. Henley, St. Louis; H. E. Hess, New York; F. E. McKnight, Atlanta; H. K. Miller, New York; H. L. Phillips, Hartford; C. H. Phinney, Boston; Alfred Stone, Providence.

Political Contributions by Life Insurance Corporations Not Criminal.

(From "Hysterical Insurance Reform," by F. W. Haskell, in Moody's for May.)

The other point I desire to mention is the grotesque madness of bringing the criminal charge of larceny against life insurance officials for permitting contributions from the funds in their charge to political campaigns.

In assailing this instance of "too much zeal," I do not mean to excuse or defend such contributions. In fact, I consider them as having been of very questionable judgment, if not actually morally wrong. But "criminal," No!

Under existing statutes, is it a crime for an individual to contribute his own funds to a political cause? If it is not, then the crime of the insurance officer did not consist in the one act of making a political contribution. I may lawfully give $10 of my own money to a campaign fund. If I take $10 from my neighbor's pocket and give it to a campaign fund, I have committed an unlawful act. But what is the unlawful act? The contribution? No! The theft from my neighbor? Yes!

I may lawfully give $10 of my own money to charity. If I steal $10 from my neighbor and give it to charity, I have committed a crime. In neither case was the gift to charity a crime. The subsequent disposal of the proceeds of a theft has no bearing on the theft itself, and neither increases nor diminishes the degree of the crime.

If political contributions are in themselves lawful, then a political contribution out of trust funds is not of itself unlawful. If the insurance officer committed a crime, it was not in the giving. If the funds he contributed were unlawfully obtained by him, then he committed a crime.

What constitutes unlawful or criminal appropriation of trust funds?

The man who is employed to handle the funds of others is bound to conserve the interests of those he represents, to the fullest extent of his ability. He may so handle the trust funds that he expends nothing except for such things as are absolutely unavoidable; such as taxes and for necessary labor. In this case he would be beyond the possibility of suspicion. On the other hand, he may deliberately appropriate a part of the funds to his own use; in which case he is guilty of theft, or whatever softer term the law may name it.

Between these two extremes of doing nothing and stealing,

(Continued on page 409.)

Life Insurance Business in Mississippi in 1905.

(Compiled from the Report of the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Policies Issued.		Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905.		Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		
Equitable, N. Y.	1,143	$2,022,718	8,286	$16,207,714	$567,497	$232,773
Fidelity Mutual	621	1,081,536	2,067	3,721,609	120,636	16,000
Franklin, Ill	230	288,343	340	499,180	16,785	2,000
Germania	376	442,280	497	617,369	22,759	.....
Hartford	82	118,815	129	144,675	9,390	1,500
Home Life	3	7,200	37	83,825	4,153	.....
Michigan Mutual	172	312,445	922	1,891,023	50,720	14,500
Missouri State	205	265,672	188	222,703	6,750	.....
Mutual Benefit	613	1,125,137	1,800	3,752,614	122,982	34,023
Mutual Life, N. Y.	2,162	3,148,958	9,855	17,314,405	593,163	165,831
Mutual Reserve	9	9,041	577	1,285,230	39,123	33,183
New York Life	1,956	3,861,285	13,491	25,987,205	933,473	335,252
Pacific Mutual	34	64,585	70	136,052	2,440	.....
Penn Mutual	1,434	2,572,586	2,896	5,321,538	169,022	44,933
Phœnix Mutual	57	125,500	65	161,141	5,311	6,551
Provident Savings	119	291,512	201	523,472	16,181	.....
Prudential	548	1,110,244	2,229	5,226,088	185,934	85,310
Security Mutual	510	765,522	743	1,243,765	38,863	6,000
State Life, Ind	516	1,125,073	846	1,949,870	63,304	5,000
Travelers	....	.....	45	128,500	2,565	.....
Union Central	793	1,818,836	2,300	4,885,607	171,236	26,023
Volunteer State	533	890,000	553	947,500	29,292	.....
Washington	99	143,150	304	435,268	14,726	3,000
Totals, 1905	12,215	$21,590,438	48,441	$92,686,353	$3,186,304	$1,011,880

Fire Insurance Business in Alabama in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$8,273,730	$144,012	$68,522
Agricultural, Watertown	1,016,500	18,426	17,917
American Central, St. Louis	1,431,711	26,214	8,877
American, Boston	227,243	2,627	7,711
American, Newark	443,027	7,487	3,243
American Fire, Philadelphia	1,695,935	29,352	24,903
Atlanta-Birmingham, Atlanta	1,765,524	32,568	16,740
Atlas, London	677,185	13,827	13,186
British-America, Toronto	651,700	12,468	8,281
Citizens, St. Louis	1,333,719	27,525	11,432
Commercial Union, London	2,475,297	37,086	29,055
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	725,800	12,993	16,738
Continental, New York	4,386,273	94,414	63,435
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	393,027	8,937	4,173
Eagle Fire, New York	599,812	7,826	1,099
Factors and Traders, Mobile	2,159,421	31,839	7,279
Fire Association, Philadelphia	2,992,520	58,599	41,111
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	3,761,450	61,994	46,061
Georgia Home, Columbus	1,451,861	27,150	10,626
German, Freeport	1,252,216	18,864	14,300
German Alliance, New York	544,454	10,845	9,324
German-American, New York	4,343,940	55,109	34,043
Germania Fire, New York	1,009,108	20,314	7,379
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	2,005,272	21,390	17,585
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	1,846,046	40,860	14,428
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	814,370	17,319	9,944
Hanover Fire, New York	1,626,345	37,479	25,264
Hartford Fire, Hartford	9,584,319	160,142	77,101
Home, New York	9,748,039	153,035	99,210
Indemnity Fire, New York	356,178	7,185	7,585
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	260,789	7,047	1,359
Insurance Company of N. America	3,907,521	87,806	69,760
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liv'p'l	8,546,413	193,254	143,794
Liverpool & London & Globe, N. Y.	777,010	16,334	20,180
London and Lancashire Fire	4,486,933	100,099	35,523
London Assurance Corporation	643,623	13,252	12,559
Milwaukee Mechanics	555,722	12,050	5,070
National Fire, Hartford	1,841,645	30,332	27,909
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	1,255,958	23,630	16,690
New York Fire, New York	62,951	1,525	2,535
Niagara Fire, New York	1,159,145	23,780	21,200
North British and Mercantile	2,919,581	26,791	11,401
Northern, London	1,842,101	25,246	25,579
Norwich Union Fire, Norwich	1,427,087	30,295	32,528
Orient, Hartford	1,800,453	28,529	22,687
Palatine, London	1,597,843	35,766	22,194
Pelican, New York	162,350	3,296	2,800
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	2,294,734	45,885	35,196
Phenix, Brooklyn	3,285,973	84,172	45,064
Phœnix, Hartford	2,287,307	34,765	28,103
Phœnix, London	1,560,238	43,911	41,280
Providence-Washington, Providence	2,849,128	28,391	18,169
Queen, New York	2,327,111	47,299	36,181
Rochester German, Rochester	596,884	12,866	8,230
Royal, Liverpool	3,779,786	57,420	44,448
Royal Exchange, London	911,654	15,759	14,125
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	1,904,648	33,689	26,050
Scottish Union and National, Edinb'h	1,224,562	21,352	13,264
Springfield Fire and Marine, Springf'd	2,841,885	21,669	10,393
Stonewall, Mobile	2,445,048	36,820	10,447
Sun, London	1,407,200	30,549	32,547
Sun, New Orleans	2,038,342	46,882	22,286
Teutonia, New Orleans	1,559,719	24,490	17,210
Toledo Fire and Marine, Toledo	70,500	1,835	.....
Traders, Chicago	829,245	17,069	13,477
Virginia State, Richmond	2,054,514	65,563	35,673
Westchester, New York	1,085,466	19,478	20,779
Western, Toronto	3,066,182	23,022	31,335
Totals, 1905	$141,144,259	$2,502,406	$1,661,904
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$144,395,079	$2,407,329	$1,144,481
1903	126,308,490	2,115,355	1,024,293
1902	109,646,973	1,959,396	1,251,839
1901	109,436,182	1,696,489	946,082
1900	102,834,121	1,545,706	880,240
1899	85,116,131	1,361,397	788,439
1898	71,241,873	1,156,572	447,068
1897	71,802,470	1,168,564	744,047
1896	71,854,034	1,107,603	382,906
1895	66,108,317	1,099,131	466,699
1894	66,828,364	1,067,445	818,879
1893	71,802,952	1,143,999	463,642
1892	82,802,382	1,220,101	702,581
1891	84,198,048	1,262,995	721,498
1880 to 1890, inclusive	581,272,266	8,275,507	4,293,048

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 66.4. The percentage in 1905 was 53.3.

Fire Insurance Business in Arkansas in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Citizens, St. Louis	$1,295,057	$30,757	$19,961
Commercial Fire, Houston, Tex	1,298,769	25,141	1,383
Concordia, Milwaukee	643,986	10,732	9,221
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	587,452	5,648	31,965
Continental, Little Rock	955,381	19,646	1,530
Federal, Jersey City	451,400	5,466	10,156
Fire Association, Philadelphia	884,316	25,134	43,960
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	959,152	17,888	27,661
Georgia Home, Columbus	264,525	4,481	14,948
German Alliance, New York	19,377	1,236	845
German American, New York	1,013,682	21,857	36,813
Hartford Fire, Hartford	7,117,325	140,065	106,329
Home, Fordyce, Ark	589,533	14,477	1,954
Indianapolis Fire	2,603	315	479
Insurance Co. of North America	400,195	18,236	32,070
Metropolitan, Chicago	40,854	1,571	22
Mississippi Home, Vicksburg	764,053	19,776	2,820
National Fire, Hartford	647,024	12,798	23,570
National Union, Philadelphia	164,039	1,546	13,237
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	198,812	8,186	29,092
New York Fire, New York	45,134	1,034	*586
Niagara Fire, New York	235,812	9,441	30,734
North British & Mercantile, London	1,087,198	10,425	27,998
Norwich Union, Norwich	116,550	5,502	16,826
Pelican, New York	72,034	2,844	11,469
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	343,588	7,713	18,022
Phenix, Brooklyn	293,990	10,086	45,892
Phœnix, Hartford	930,869	16,234	30,718
Phœnix, London	310,725	13,108	35,222
Prussian National, Stettin	164,600	1,629	25,470
Queen, New York	436,135	14,219	26,204
Rochester German, Rochester	28,169	1,201	17,024
Royal, Liverpool	337,124	16,665	56,782
Royal Exchange, London	.....	.....	5,007
Southern, New Orleans	3,206,986	68,093	28,275
Southern Mutual, Greensboro, N. C.	373,050	7,409	384
Southern Underw's, Greensboro, N. C.	752,833	14,196	3,066
Springfield Fire and Marine	860,143	13,378	38,813
St. Paul Fire and Marine	1,005,083	10,766	21,382
Sun, London	659,163	14,476	11,300
Sun, New Orleans	289,513	7,849	23,356
T. and C., Dallas, Tex	2,108,326	39,798	3,595
Toledo Fire and Marine, Toledo	324,450	6,333	4,560
Traders, Chicago	121,911	5,183	27,643
Westchester Fire, New York	5,364	1,122	14,009
Western, Toronto	635,708	8,318	18,471
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	236,275	6,662	26,422
Totals, 1905	$40,715,406	$854,168	$1,208,617
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$91,183,135	$1,756,805	$845,627
1903	77,307,148	1,530,128	472,320
1902	66,992,756	1,371,541	655,237
1901	75,037,717	1,267,588	640,130
1900	62,693,797	1,109,703	901,073
1899	58,252,947	976,867	596,178
1898	54,715,154	850,549	434,512
1897	39,738,108	760,033	400,471
1896	36,717,031	717,126	395,131
1895	34,073,887	707,365	377,276
1894	32,620,429	715,398	430,989
1893	30,106,805	657,601	398,496
1892	38,750,207	796,402	561,003
1891	36,416,955	743,697	696,089
1880 to 1890	225,057,904	4,718,135	2,978,695

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 61.4. The percentage in 1905 was 141.5.

Fire Insurance Business in the District of Columbia in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$297,854	$3,176	$2,904
Ætna, Hartford	799,375	6,708	2,048
Agricultural, Watertown	1,305,300	9,605	1,798
Allemannia Fire, Pittsfield	176,002	1,693	81
American, Boston	67,551	545	.....
American, Newark	440,015	4,123	638
American Central, St. Louis	139,424	1,342	4
American Fire, Philadelphia	660,739	4,397	270
Arlington, Washington	3,107,193	16,842	2,429
Assurance Co. of America, New York	187,335	1,535	.....
Atlas, London	533,213	4,794	3,937
Boston, Boston	378,034	3,245	234
British America, Toronto	149,547	1,613	201
British American, New York	45,118	563	2
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	182,454	1,786	110
Buffalo German, Buffalo	125,300	915	9
Caledonian, Edinburgh	381,110	4,023	4,230
Camden Fire, Camden	407,606	4,589	71
Citizens, St. Louis	384,003	4,409	293
Colonial, Washington	1,206,562	10,244	2,128
Columbia Fire, Washington	2,892,446	20,375	1,434
Commercial, Washington	4,508,897	19,338	5,886
Commercial Union, London	620,555	8,030	1,111
Continental, New York	2,349,291	16,154	3,371
Corcoran, Washington	3,198,830	15,157	2,409
Delaware Fire, Dover	81,925	735	21
Delaware, Philadelphia	247,222	1,885	76
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	105,225	886	21
Eagle Fire, New York	367,231	2,670	344
Equitable F. and M., Providence	185,150	1,584	10
Federal, Jersey City	436,188	2,922	71
Fire Association, Philadelphia	625,542	6,680	551
Fire Insurance Co., Philadelphia	185,700	1,711	231
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	716,116	5,703	433
Firemen's, Washington	7,252,691	34,047	7,054
Firemen's, Newark	347,965	2,667	2,131
Franklin, Washington	2,244,256	12,939	2,209
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	350,925	3,090	141
Georgia Home, Columbus	328,750	2,761	50
German, Freeport, Ill	1,555,688	9,222	680
German Alliance, New York	856,230	8,485	4,256
German American, Washington	3,652,778	16,963	858
German American, Baltimore	120,720	761	23
German American, New York	4,101,039	27,506	4,255
German Fire, Peoria	417,777	4,187	1,355
German Fire, Wheeling	80,675	1,048	.....
Germania Fire, New York	531,580	2,986	436
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	274,026	1,497	98
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	304,350	1,855	160
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	598,605	6,262	34
Granite State, Manchester	124,790	1,142	.....
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	468,588	4,255	214
Hanover Fire, New York	538,319	4,306	1,410
Hartford Fire, Hartford	1,889,802	21,470	4,095
Home, New York	3,162,519	32,727	1,575
Home F. and M., San Francisco	504,674	3,985	260
Indemnity Fire, New York	100,522	1,144	117
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	157,196	1,917	414
Insurance Company of N. America	962,833	8,963	680
Jefferson Fire, Philadelphia	149,800	1,489	149
Law Union and Crown, London	78,245	840	14
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverpool	1,617,765	14,251	309
London and Lancashire	553,283	4,700	303
London Assurance Corporation	190,800	2,136	23
Lumbermen's, Philadelphia	41,700	201	.....
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	92,034	814	11
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	116,274	1,217	57
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	419,401	3,688	163
National, Allegheny	271,906	1,596	27
National Fire, Hartford	433,988	4,943	214
National Metropolitan, Washington	1,610,060	9,996	1,615
National Union, Washington	5,186,218	19,483	2,337
National Union, Pittsburgh	478,155	3,808	333
New Hampshire Fire	614,635	5,672	964
New York Fire, New York	174,881	1,450	498
Niagara Fire, New York	505,968	4,483	835
North British and Mercantile, London	5,165,932	33,553	5,566
Northern, New York	117,600	742	38
Northern, London	1,386,635	13,902	1,512
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	4,433,233	21,823	4,255
Norwich Union, Norwich	1,355,605	13,188	5,959
Orient, Hartford	443,872	3,939	243
Palatine, London	386,255	3,671	29
Pelican, New York	95,149	657	11
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	3,641,157	3,844	80
People's Fire, Washington	3,551,047	13,661	1,453
Phenix, Brooklyn	767,558	7,104	2,889
Phœnix, Hartford	911,200	6,107	348
Phœnix, London	718,160	7,258	140
Potomac, Washington	3,986,365	20,269	2,738
Providence-Washington, Providence	637,923	5,845	417
Queen, New York	534,420	5,301	134
Rochester German, Rochester	128,295	920	60
Royal, Liverpool	2,992,775	25,535	3,128
Royal Exchange, London	1,264,954	12,201	3,145
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	165,800	1,589	707
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	420,545	4,433	1,200
Security, New Haven	286,840	1,831	1,913
Springfield Fire and Marine	1,108,339	10,105	1,926
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	193,850	1,297	5
State, Liverpool	33,234	822	5
Sun, London	1,109,980	11,547	3,534
Toledo F. and M., Toledo	26,605	613	.....
Traders, Chicago	281,488	2,936	534
Union, Philadelphia	91,900	977	.....
Union, London	246,530	2,355	35
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	129,000	1,450	36
Virginia F. and M., Richmond	156,366	1,608	967
Virginia State, Richmond	140,100	2,886	1,887
Westchester Fire, New York	513,254	4,467	1,047
Western, Pittsburgh	102,050	1,134	1,258
Western, Toronto	449,540	4,137	496
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	304,315	2,679	129
Totals, 1905	$105,957,335	$743,315	$125,557
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$97,029,560	$737,159	$211,894
1903	96,752,496	727,787	139,316
1902	100,188,323	636,379	99,561
1901	97,260,926	578,247	199,615
1900	87,281,308	550,148	161,567
1899	94,373,176	595,060	294,159
1898	96,506,797	616,775	295,859
1897	86,094,725	500,764	383,119
1896	79,550,027	499,122	169,298
1895	69,828,834	457,840	183,417
1894	75,148,286	475,502	298,629
1893	57,798,702	365,913	173,221
1892	61,150,726	373,902	111,225
1891	58,957,029	339,555	87,555
1880 to 1890	91,067,526	3,238,250	1,072,033

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 35.5. The percentage in 1905 was 16.9.

(Continued from page 407.)

the custodian has a wide range of discretion; and in the exercise of that discretion, he may render himself open to praise, criticism, censure or a civil suit; but there is no room for a criminal action short of the one extreme of unlawfully appropriating to himself the funds in his care.

A certain manufacturing corporation has about forty stockholders. These stockholders annually elect five men to serve as directors. The five directors annually elect me to handle the affairs of the company. Practically all of the available funds of the company are in my control. My duty to the forty stockholders is to handle the company to the best of my ability; and to do that I must use my judgment. If I spend only exactly what must be spent for materials and labor, I am secure against any charge of dishonesty, but I would be open to censure for failing to develop the possibilities of the concern. In the exercise of discretionary judgment, I expend considerable sums of the company's money for experimental work. Much of the money so expended is unproductive and is lost to the stockholder; but in the aggregate the returns from the successful experiments more than make up for the losses in the unsuccessful experiments, and the stockholders applaud these acts. Now suppose that for a period of years all of these experiments were failures. It would demonstrate bad judgment on my part, and I would doubtless be relieved of my control of the company; but could the stockholders say "you have taken money belonging to us, and without our knowledge or consent you have destroyed that money. This is a crime. It is theft"?

During the past few years, at my direction and without even consultation with the directors, several hundreds of dollars of the corporation's money have been donated to a local hospital. During the same time, on my advice, with the approval of the directors, but without knowledge on the part of the other stockholders, several thousand dollars of the corporation's funds have been donated to the building fund of the Y. M. C. A. Am I in the one case, and are the directors and myself in the other, indictable for larceny?

The life insurance officer and myself have both, without the knowledge or consent of the owners of the funds, paid sums of money that did not belong to us, for purposes entirely foreign to anything provided for in the articles of incorporation of our respective companies, and in no way necessary to the regular conduct of their affairs.

In one respect the action of the insurance officer had a color of reason that my action did not. By no process of reasoning can I claim that the stockholders of my company are even indirectly benefited through the maintenance of a hospital. The money given in that way was purely a gift. But whether justified or not, it is readily seen that the custodian of a fund might be entirely sincere in the belief that radical changes in the financial system of the country would

injure his principals to a vastly greater extent than the loss of the sum donated to prevent such changes.

My own opinion is that neither individuals nor corporations should contribute to campaign funds. People should aspire to office through patriotism and vote through principle. But as long as campaign funds exist, and as long as donations to them are lawful, it may occur to some men that if they are justified in protecting their own interests by contributions of their own money, they are equally justified in protecting their corporations' interests by contributing the corporations' money.

In the illustration cited, the insurance officer and myself gave money which did not belong to us, for purposes which are, in themselves, lawful. If either committed a crime, it was not in the giving but in the taking. We each took without the knowledge or consent of the owner. Neither of us was benefited personally. The public says the insurance officers' act was a crime; and it says my act was praiseworthy. Why?

Proposed Immediate Mutualization of the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

President Morton made public on Thursday the following statement of a proposed plan to secure the immediate mutualization of the Equitable Life Assurance Society:

We have mailed to each of the directors of the society a proposed amended charter of the Equitable, which provides that twenty-eight directors shall be elected directly by the policyholders at the annual meeting to be held next December, and that thereafter the policyholder directors shall always constitute a majority of the board. This amended charter, which embodies all promises made by Mr. Ryan voluntarily at the time he purchased his stock, and repeated by him when a witness before the Armstrong Committee, will come before the board of directors at the regular monthly meeting on May 31 for their consideration.

It provides that the twenty-eight policyholder directors shall be elected with the same formalities and subject to the same safeguards as are provided by the new law for the election of directors of strictly mutual life insurance companies. The policyholders are already well represented in the Equitable board, as a majority of the existing directors are policyholders elected by or upon the recommendation of Mr. Cleveland and his associates after communication with the policyholders at large.

I should add that the trustees, who vote a majority of the stock of the society, and Mr. Ryan, the owner of the stock, are heartily in favor of giving the policyholders the right to elect a majority of the directors, and that the proposed amended charter comes to us with the approval of Mr. Cleveland and his assurance that as soon as the opportunity is given Mr. Ryan's stock will be voted for its adoption.

We are advised by counsel that the injunction order now in force will have to be modified before formal action can be taken upon this charter, and we have instructed counsel to apply to the court at once for the necessary modification of the order.

MR. CLEVELAND'S APPROVAL.

Accompanying the above was the letter from Grover Cleveland, chairman of the trustees:

PRINCETON, May 22, 1906.

Hon. Paul Morton, President Equitable Life Assurance Society:

DEAR SIR—I deem it proper, on behalf of the trustees representing a majority of the stock of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, that I should bring before you and your directors at this time the subject of so amending the society's charter that a majority of the directors may, under the laws lately enacted, be elected by the policyholders.

The trust agreement under which Judge O'Brien, Mr. Westinghouse and I are acting, after reciting the adoption by the directors of the society of a plan for such election by policyholders, and the prevention of its consummation by litigation and the purpose of the trust agreement to accomplish, so far as practicable, the purposes of such plan, authorized the trustees of the majority of the stock of the society "in respect of said stock to take in their discretion by vote thereon or otherwise any action necessary or proper to effect the consummation of said plan for the mutualization of the society. * * *"

The trustees have thus far acted upon the theory that until a change in the law permitted an amendment of the charter so that a majority of the directors could be elected directly by the policyholders, they would provide the nearest possible substitute therefor by bringing about the election of a sufficient number of policyholders to give to the policyholders a majority of the entire board through the action of the trustees after such consultation with the policyholders at large as was possible. It has been assumed that when the law made it possible to amend the charter by giving the policyholders the direct power to vote for directors, the trustees of a majority of the stock would vote the stock and use their efforts for such an amendment.

It has been the expectation of the Armstrong Committee and their counsel that the charter would be amended in time to permit twenty-eight directors to be elected by the policyholders at the annual meeting next December, and I think it is important that this should be done.

The draft of an amended charter which has been prepared by Mr. Cravath and submitted to the trustees seems to adequately accomplish the object we have in view. It contemplates the vacation of the terms of those among the present directors whose terms in any event would expire in December next, and also of the thirteen directors elected in December, 1905, to serve until December, 1909. This seems to be a very essential feature of the plan suggested for the orderly and effective inauguration of direct voting by policyholders for policyholding directors. I have not, however, supposed that its effect would be to separate from the board actually and finally any of the present directors who have been elected during the last few months by the trustees or upon their recommendation, and I hope I may be allowed to suggest that the names of all of these directors be placed upon the so called "administration ticket" to be presented to the policyholders of the society for their suffrages in December next.

I think the proposed amended charter should be submitted to your board at its next meeting, to the end that its provisions should become operative as soon as possible.

I request that a meeting of the stockholders be called for some days, as early in June as practicable, so that the necessary action by a majority of the stock may be secured.

The proposed amended charter and this letter have been submitted to Judge O'Brien and have his approval. The subject has not yet been submitted to Mr. Westinghouse, who is in Europe, but a full explanation has been mailed to him, and I have no reason to doubt that he will join with Judge O'Brien and myself in supporting the suggestions herein contained. Yours truly,

GROVER CLEVELAND.

A LETTER TO THE DIRECTORS.

President Morton also gave out a copy of a letter which he had sent to the directors regarding the matter. In this he said:

I agree with Mr. Cleveland that under the circumstances it is desirable to so amend the society's charter that twenty-eight of the directors may be elected by the policyholders in the manner outlined in the amended charter. Such an amendment was clearly contemplated by the trust agreement under which the voting power of a majority of the stock of the society was transferred to Messrs. Cleveland, O'Brien and Westinghouse. Mr. Ryan, as the owner of the stock, and the trustees, who vote the stock, are pledged to such an amendment, and it seems to have been the expectation of the Armstrong Committee and their counsel that the amendment would be made in time to permit the twenty-eight policyholders' directors to be elected at the annual meeting next December. Inasmuch as the procedure called for by the new law requires the list of policyholders to be filled and the official nominations made at least five months before the election, it is desirable that action upon the proposed amended charter should be taken at the next meeting of the directors. A special meeting of the stockholders to act upon the amended charter will be held early in the month of June.

By the proposed amendment it will be possible for the policyholders to elect on December 18 next a full majority of the board, though ordinarily but thirteen out of the fifty-two directors would retire at the next annual meeting. This, as suggested in Mr. Cleveland's letter to Mr. Morton, includes the vacating of the offices of the 1906 and 1909 classes first and the creation in addition of one vacancy in each of the other two classes, to be determined by lot by the president and secretary of the society if such vacancy does not exist at present. A complication like that involved in getting the policyholders' directors split up into regular classes exists also in the case of the directors chosen by the stock. The twenty-four so chosen are now elected in two classes of twelve each; therefore, at the annual stockholders' meeting of 1907 twelve directors will be elected in two classes of six each, to serve two and three years respectively. The same thing will

be done in 1908, so that thereafter six directors will be elected by the stock each year.

The injunction obtained in the suit of Franklin B. Lord, to which Mr. Morton refers, was granted before the passage of the new law. The courts granted the injunction to prevent the election of twenty-eight directors by the policyholders, on the ground that the proposed change in the charter would deprive the Equitable stock of its voting power. Counsel for the Equitable now believe that the injunction can be modified. They will make immediate application for such a modification, on the ground that the public interests, as expressed in the new law, demand the mutualization of the society. The amended charter has been drawn in strict conformity to the new law.

It is learned that several of the minority stockholders will contest the mutualization plan in the courts, and that the litigation may even be carried up to the Supreme Court of the United States. The contest will be based on the constitutionality of Section 52 of the insurance laws as revised by the Armstrong Committee. This section was specially amended to permit of the mutualization of the Equitable. It provides that a majority of the stockholders may amend the charter of a company along lines which confer voting rights upon the policyholders. Counsel of one of the important minority stockholders claims that the Legislature had no right to give authority to majority stockholders to deprive minority stockholders of their vested property rights, and that the courts will hold Section 52 unconstitutional on the ground that it permits confiscation of property.

The Equitable Life issued the following supplemental statement on Thursday:

The proposed amended charter of the Equitable does not contemplate the retirement from the board of any of the policyholders who have been elected to the board by or upon the recommendation of Mr. Cleveland, Judge O'Brien and Mr. Westinghouse. On the contrary, it is understood that Mr. Cleveland's purpose in recommending that the amended charter should provide that the thirteen directorships filled at the last annual meeting should expire with the present year is that the policyholders who were chosen for election at that meeting, after so much care and consultation with policyholders on the part of Mr. Cleveland and his associates, should be available for re-election by direct vote of the policyholders next December.

It should also be pointed out that the election of directors by policyholders could not occur earlier than December, inasmuch as under the new law the list of policyholders must be filed five months in advances of the election, which means in July. As it is it will require the greatest activity on the part of the clerical force of the Equitable to complete the lists of over half a million policyholders to be filed by that time.

Fire Reserves of British Companies and the San Francisco Losses.

(*The Finance Chronicle, London, May* 15.)

The San Francisco disaster has once more demonstrated the importance of reserves and the wisdom of the policy of maintaining them at a high, i. e., an adequate, level. What is an adequate reserve for fire insurance business has long been matter for discussion, but after the experience of recent years our international fire offices come to see that a reserve approaching a year's premium income is none too much to have in hand to meet conflagration contingency, and certainly half a year's premium, or 50 per cent., is but a modest minimum if a company is to prosecute business in an enterprising manner. Since the announcement of the great disaster above referred to we are glad to notice a movement among the chief offices to further strengthen their reserves. The Northern Assurance Company has raised the standard of its unexpired risk reserve from 45 to 50 per cent., the Scottish Union Assurance Company now maintains this reserve at 50 per cent., and the Caledonian has transferred £50,000 from the year's profits as a special addition to the fire reserves. From the remarks of chairmen at the annual meetings of companies held within the past few weeks we are glad to note a general disposition to strengthen the reserves, in some cases even at the expense of dividend distributions. Fortunately the results of the underwriting by most of our great offices last year were exceptionally favorable, and lend themselves to furthering good resolutions of this sort, as the above mentioned instances testify. The very favorable loss ratio, accompanied with moderate expenditure, has enabled the offices, so far as yet published, to add to their fire and reserve funds at least two and three-quarter millions sterling. The companies are thus well equipped financially to meet the exceptionally heavy claims arising out of the San Francisco disaster—and which claims we are all glad to learn will not amount to anything like the gigantic total originally anticipated. The following table shows the result of the past year's underwriting and of the amount of fire reserves of the British fire offices operating on the Pacific Coast:

Company.	Net Premiums.	Net Losses, Expenses, Etc.	Per Cent.	Trading Surplus.	Fire and Reserve Funds.
Alliance	£923,854	£717,255	77.7	£206,599	£2,841,484
Atlas	983,558	946,483	96.2	37,075	910,564
Caledonian	434,860	369,294	83.5	65,566	533,177
Commercial Union	2,074,789	1,709,526	82.3	365,263	2,500,178
Law Union and Crown	213,578	154,755	72.4	58,823	377,486
Liv. & Lon. & Globe.	2,199,100	1,805,393	82.0	393,707	3,310,022
London Assurance	561,603	451,927	80.5	109,676	1,535,901
London & Lancashire.	1,319,776	1,021,573	77.3	298,203	2,027,734
N. Brit. & Mercantile.	1,940,195	1,615,730	83.2	324,465	3,144,261
Northern	1,112,591	925,699	83.2	186,892	2,281,849
Phœnix	1,423,987	1,180,622	82.9	243,365	1,668,913
Scott. Union and Nat.	590,676	511,024	86.6	79,651	705,119
State	148,660	129,500	87.1	19,160	106,931
Sun	1,319,330	1,070,413	81.1	248,916	2,668,639
Union	695,263	594,200	85.5	101,063	796,968

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INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

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Second Vice-President

32 Nassau Street, New York City

Western Assurance Company

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, CANADA.

INCORPORATED 1851.

Hon. GEO. A. COX, President.

J. J. KENNY, V. P. and Managing Director.

UNITED STATES STATEMENT, JANUARY, 1906.

Assets $2,397,608.00

Surplus in United States 782,945.00

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 12 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Milwaukee.

ASSETS, $151,663,477.29

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1905 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $105.83 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1905:

395 per day in number of Claims Paid.
6,972 per day in number of Policies issued.
$1,502,484 per day in New Insurance Written.
$123,788.29 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.
$77,275.94 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks.	$79,629,477.18
Bonds and Mortgages..	38,062,610.75
Real Estate.....	17,495,905.30
Cash	4,183,912.16
Demand Loans on Collateral	3,747,285.50
Loans to Policyholders.	3,703,554.50
Prem. deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,826,755.63
Accrued Int., Rents, etc.	1,013,976.27
Total	$151,663,477.29

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves.....	$132,705,296.00
All other Liabilities.....	2,776,602.33
Capital and Surplus....	16,181,578.96
Total	$151,663,477.29

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security..... $318,264,084.12

Number of Policies in Force, 8,596,705.

Amount of Outstanding Insurance.....$1,596.509,769.00

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice President.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

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MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Established in 1850. Operating in 44 States.

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JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President.
JAMES B. ESTEE, 2d Vice-President.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary.
H. M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
A. B. BISBEE, Medical Director.
C. E. MOULTON, Actuary.
F. A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1906, and gained during the past decade:

Assets	$34,519,093.04	Gain, 184 per cent.
Surplus	3,821,752.51	Gain, 165 per cent.
Insurance	145,480,904.00	Gain, 109 per cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.
A. H. GSELLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

CHARTERED 1866.

Hartford Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

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$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.

Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.

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YOUNG MEN MAKE MONEY

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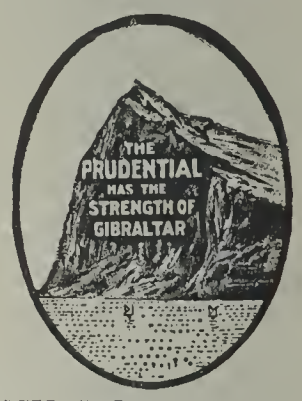
Prudential representatives make money. They have most varied forms of policies and advantageous contracts, with liberal commissions.

The attention of young men, particularly young men starting in business, is especially sought.

Write for full information regarding these unusual opportunities.



THE PRUDENTIAL

INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey.

JOHN F. DRYDEN, President Home Office, Newark, N. J.

The Mutual Benefit

LIFE INSURANCE CO.

NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

Assets (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1906.....	$99,127,140
Liabilities	91,548,087
Surplus	7,576,303

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references

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Care of WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William St., New York City

Applications will be considered strictly confidential.

Royal INSURANCE COMPANY (FIRE) OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

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GERMANIA

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

NEW YORK.

ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE

Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

Provident Life and Trust Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. **THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY** invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK

391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

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EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

The Union Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

CAPITAL, = = $200,000

STATEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1906.

Total Assets	$718,168
Total Liabilities	366,834
Surplus to Policyholders	351,334

WILLIAM MUIR, President.
E. R. DANNELS, Secretary.
M. JOS. NOWLAN, Assistant Secretary.

Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

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GEORGE E. BULKLEY, . *Secretary and Actuary.*
E. B. PECK, . . . *Assistant Secretary.*
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NEW YORK OFFICE:
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Continental Casualty Company
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have been able to build for it the largest personal disability insurance business in America.
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MUTUAL
Life Insurance Company of Boston, Mass.
Insurance in Force, December 31, 1905, Over $395,000,000
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Roland O. Lamb, Vice-Pres.; Arnold A. Rand, 2d Vice-Pres.; Robert K. Eaton, Sup't of Agencies; Walton L. Crocker, Secretary; Wm. S. Smith, Actuary; George L. Stimmel, General Agent Metropolitan District.
St. Paul Building, New York.

London Assurance Corporation,
CHARTERED A. D. 1720.
Surplus in United States January 1, 1906, $857,681.75.
CHAS. LYMAN CASE, Manager.
61 Pine Street, New York.

INCORPORATED 1799.
Providence Washington Insurance Company,
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

SAFETY FUND INSURANCE.
NIAGARA
Fire Insurance Company
OF NEW YORK.
OFFICE:
135 & 137 BROADWAY.

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PROGRESSIVE
FAITHFUL

¶ Some of the cardinal aims of the *Union Mutual* management are—to be conservative in the choice of investments—to be progressive in the prosecution of the business—to be faithful to the interests of policyholders.

Agents of like inclination cordially welcomed.
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EDSON D. SCOFIELD, Superintendent, 180 Broadway, N. Y. City.
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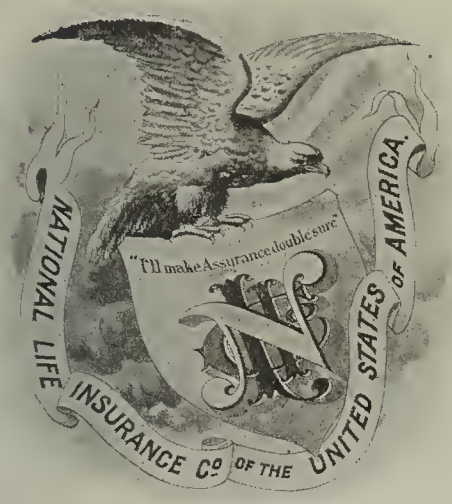
NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Of the U. S. of A.



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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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ROBERT E. SACKETT, Vice-President
ROBERT D. LAY, Secretary
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Admitted assets, $6,092,500.46
Ins. in force - 43,336,600.78
Full paid capital, 1,000,000.00

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A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Manager.

Massachusetts Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED 1851

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

ASSETS January 1, 1906,	$40,082,953.35
LIABILITIES,	36,716,579.77
SURPLUS,	3,366,373.58

Definite Paid-up and Cash Surrender Values Written in Every Policy.

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SUN

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Established 1782.

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FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
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A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
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INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

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All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

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THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

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"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.

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Northern Assurance Company,

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GEORGE W. BABB, JR., Manager. T. A. RALSTON, Sub-Manager.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencie
WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1906

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Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance. The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy. Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

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WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

North British & Mercantile

INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

Established 1809.

OFFICE:

76 WILLIAM STREET,

New York City.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE
Insurance Company.
1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization
A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.

1825. THE 1906.
Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

Insurance Co. of North America,
232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906		$13,015,852
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,389,121	
Capital Stock	3,000,000	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,731	$13,015,852

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.
LIMITED,
OF LONDON.
OFFICE:
Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

The Preferred Accident Insurance Co.
OF NEW YORK.

Accident Policies. Health Policies.

Large Benefits, Low Rates, Best Commissions.

January 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,319,514
Surplus	474,634

KIMBALL C. ATWOOD, Sec., 290 Broadway, NEW YORK.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.
ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$2,960,364
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,603,103
Joint Stock Capital	500,000

INCORPORATED 1865.
GERMAN INSURANCE CO.
OF FREEPORT, ILL.
The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$6,148,738
Cash Capital	200,000
Liabilities, including reinsurance	3,996,673
NET SURPLUS	1,952,065

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

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THE public accountants engaged at the instance of the Fowler investigating committee of the New York Life insurance company to examine the books of the company have prepared a report, which appears on the last page of the present issue of this paper. It will be accepted by the policyholders as satisfactory in the highest degree. The reserve, as reported by the accountants, is more than a million dollars in excess of that reported by the company in its last annual statement. Their general conclusions are as follows:

We have verified all the assets of the company and after providing sufficient reserves for possible losses, find that on December 31, 1905, the total assets amounted to $438,788,015.39, and are fully worth that sum. We have tested the clerical accuracy of the insurance reserve as certified by the actuary of the company, which amounts to $379,151,063.70, and exceeds that required by the Insurance Department of the State of New York by the sum of $7,201,720; and having made a provision of $5,589,755 for all liabilities, we find that there was on December 31, 1905, a balance of $54,047,176.29 available for dividends on participating policies (including deferred dividend policies at the end of their several accumulation periods) and for contingencies. This balance exceeds that claimed by the company in its annual report for 1905. The general administration of the company is well organized, its management is sound, its methods and system of collecting premiums are effective and economical, and its books and records are well and accurately kept. The reserve as reported by the accountants is more than $1,000,000 in excess of that reported by the company in its last annual statement.

NOT only because they are a part of the life insurance record, but because the particulars are of considerable interest to our readers, we reprint from our London contemporaries the text of the communications made to the British policyholders of the Mutual Life insurance company of New York by the late and present general managers of the company in the United Kingdom, with other matter concerning the sensational attempt to twist the policyholders into the North British company. It will be noticed in Mr. Haldeman's labored effort to excuse and defend his treacherous undertaking to injure his former company that he makes no mention of the failure of his ambitious attempt on the presidency of the Mutual Life as one of the causes of his later course. But he does admit that personal grievances against the officers of the company have most to do with his desire to transfer the policyholders to a more "advantageous" company, of which he will be joint manager. The *Economist,* whose comments on Mr. Haldeman and his proposition we also copy, is the leading financial journal of Great Britain, and it is not at all impressed by the adequacy of his position. On the contrary, it questions the advantages of most of the features of the North British plan of individual reinsurances, and urges at least "deliberation," "caution" and "careful study of the problem in all its aspects" on the part of the enticed policyholders. Other London papers appear to have taken the same view of the situation, and we need not be surprised by the later advices cabled this week that the policyholders have ceased to "flock" over to Mr. Haldeman's new enterprise, and, indeed, that much of the cabled account that they were flocking over in large numbers was pure deception. Now that Vice President McClintock, who is particularly regarded with respect and confidence by British actuaries, has reached the battlefield and assumed the aggressive, we may expect to hear that Mr. Haldeman's master-stroke to aggrandize himself at the expense of the Mutual Life and its British policyholders has broken down.

IT may well be questioned if there is real economy in the reduction of the fees of medical examiners by the life insurance companies which have recently been under criticism for extravagant expenditures. No doubt the pressure for all around reduction is strong, but there are some kinds of services that are worthless if they are not the best that can be had, and the price of the best cannot be beaten down. Favorable selection in life insurance depends on proper medical examination, and the competent physician only can provide it. To substitute a cheaper man for the work is to ensure the passage of many bad risks and increase the mortality ratio vastly beyond the savings from lessened fees. The movement among medical men throughout the country to refuse to accept the reduction of the examination fee from five to three dollars is so marked that the companies concerned in this proceeding will be driven into rescission or the dangerous acceptance of inferior service. Many county medical societies have pledged their members to withdraw from examination work unless the impolitic ordinance is repealed, and when the State associations meet they may be expected to take similar action. Physicians are educated men, and they naturally resent a reflection on the value of their labor, which usually consists in much more than the thumpings of an applicant's chest and the testing of his kidneys in examinations. In country districts an examination often requires one or more trips to the applicant's home or place of business and correspondence with the home office to clear up doubtful points. The remonstrants who are writing to the medical journals allude to the manifest increase in the prices of the necessaries and luxuries of life during the last few years, and draw a contrast between the higher wages paid to the hodcarriers, day laborers and artisans of all kinds, and the reduction of the medical professional man's compensation by the insurance companies. Not all of the companies, it is true, have adopted this perilous policy, but those which have should reflect that the doctors of our physical ailments constitute, upon the whole, the most influential body of persons in the community, because their service to us is intimate and personal, and that they can do a great deal to induce business to go to those companies which they believe treat

them justly instead of to those which do otherwise. In his way the medical examiner is as important to the security of the life insurance company as the actuary, and we are not hearing much of the inclusion of the latter in the scheme of expense contraction.

Both of the great rating organizations of Boston—the New England Insurance Exchange and the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters—have during the past week taken action toward securing the ten per cent. advance in rates in their respective jurisdictions, which is called for by the needs of the hour. At last Saturday's meeting of the Exchange the executive committee of that body was clothed with discretionary power to bring about the advance, the major part of which is probably to be assessed upon unprofitable hazards and risks exposed to the dangers of conflagration. The delegates of the Boston Board that had been appointed to confer with the committee of company managers in New York reported last Tuesday that "the committee, having thoroughly explained to your delegates its own views as to the necessity of such action, if the companies were still to afford unquestioned security to the public, left the whole matter for the consideration and action of the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters in the territory controlled by it, with the understanding that said Board should in its own way arrange to secure an increase in premiums approximately ten per cent. on the amount now paid annually in Boston." The executive committee of the Board was instructed to study into the details of this plan and report before the next regular meeting or sooner. The higher classes of risks, such as private residences, dwellings with stores, churches, fireproof structures, public buildings and sprinklered risks, are not likely to be affected by the advance, which, in that event, must throw a greater percentage than the average desired on the close built business part of the city of Boston. Mr. Fitzgerald, the perniciously active mayor of that industrious municipality, who rarely misses an opportunity for hot air play to the gallery, forthwith sent a letter to each of the principal business associations of Boston of the following tenor:

> I notice in today's papers that a movement is on foot among the insurance companies to increase rates here in New England. I sincerely trust that your association will look into this matter, with a view to taking proper action upon a matter so important to the business interests of the city. It is my opinion that the people of this city are paying as high insurance rates as the business conditions of the city will permit, and they ought not to be compelled to pay a higher rate unless conditions justify it. I firmly believe that most of the large insurance companies are fully able to meet the California exigencies without embarrassment to their resources. If an investigation shows the above to be true, I think that the merchants of Boston ought to combine to fight the proposed increase in rates. I felt it my duty as chief magistrate of the city to call this matter to your attention.

And the esteemed Boston *Transcript,* in its own delicate and ladylike way, suggests that the companies had better, before increasing rates, see if they cannot meet the situation by reducing expenses. And, like most insurance reformers, it sees a way for doing that by dispensing with middlemen and selling insurance "over the counter" only. Hence that "tired feeling" in insurance circles.

Facts and Opinions.

Considerable discussion has been aroused recently in casualty insurance circles by the way the **health policies** have been modified so that in some cases indemnity is paid for under a week, which is contrary to the provisions found in the early health policies. This letting down of the bars, so to speak, by a few of the casualty companies has stirred up some of the users of the old form of policy with the "not under a week clause." These claim that by paying claims under a week the way is opened for the fakirs to take advantage of the company by putting in insignificant claims. By not paying an indemnity under a week the company is thought to be protected. The rival camp holds that if a man pays his premium he is entitled to collect his health insurance, no matter how long he is laid up, for that is for what the company was organized. This side further claims that much money is saved in a year by paying for disability under a week, because cases have been known where the insured was really laid up, perhaps four days, but as his policy stated that no indemnity could be collected under a week he was "laid up" for perhaps eight days so as to have a claim. The health insurance feature pure and simple is written at present by only about three companies. In all other cases it is attached to the accident policy, and makes a good bait for the accident contract. That health insurance is in its infancy and that few companies have secured trustworthy experience on this phase of casualty underwriting all are free to acknowledge. Most companies are frank in saying that the health business with them does not "pay" in itself, some ascribing the cause to too low rates, and others to the fact that writing health has not been reduced to a strictly business basis. Many of the policies exclude liability in certain diseases, while practically all exempt the company from paying any benefits under two weeks' time from the date of issuing the policy, in order to take no chances of the insured becoming infected with a disease and taking out a policy during the time he was coming down with it. Some of the companies that are doing business on the "not under a week clause" acknowledge that they have known claims to be paid for disability under this time in rare cases. This has served to advertise these companies as being willing to pay promptly. A case in point is where an agent in a small country place writes up one of the "big guns" of the town and he is taken down with "tickdelarue" for four days. The agent writes to the home office that he would like to have a claim of this man recognized, for advertising purposes, perhaps, and it is stated that it generally goes through. Besides, the "not under a week" companies say, few men carrying health insurance are paid by the day. If they are away from work two or three days their salaries run on. If it does not two or three days seems too short a time to bother with. One casualty man said that he thought in time all health insurance premiums would be governed by age in much the same way as is life insurance. In fact, some companies are even now experimenting along these lines.

The **resignation of George D. Dornin** as Pacific Coast manager of the National Fire insurance company of Hartford was announced on Monday, and was received with surprise. Mr. Dornin's reason for retiring from a position which he has held, apparently to the satisfaction of the company, for eighteen years, was that he objected to the company's decision to settle all proved claims at a discount of 25 per cent. on account of earthquake damage. Mr. Dornin is represented as saying that he could not honorably carry out a proposition such as that. It was claimed on behalf of the company that Mr. Dornin was dissatisfied because Assistant Secretary H. A. Smith was sent over by the home office to supervise the settlement of the San Francisco losses. President James Nichols, of the National Fire, has made the following statement to the *Journal of Commerce:*

> The dispatch in the morning papers regarding the National's position as to settlements in San Francisco is misleading and incorrect. The earthquake and the great fire following it created a condition which has never existed before in insurance circles. Questions of liability and equity on the part of the insurance companies have arisen the decision of which requires time, patience and delay—possibly lawsuits. These questions are not yet decided and there is much difference of opinion among the com-

panies having losses there and the assured as to the liability and the amount thereof. While these questions are in process of settlement the National deemed it a fair proposition to any assured who desires immediate payment to propose to waive them and pay at once such sum as will be satisfactory to him and to secure to the company the benefit of the decisions which have been, or might be, made on the subject. They therefore proposed as a compromise to persons desiring immediate payment that they would pay the loss and waive all questions on a reduction of 20 per cent. of the amount of the policy. No claimant is obliged to accept the compromise and the company is ready, able and willing to pay all sums which shall do justice to the assured and to its stockholders. We are informed that a great majority of the companies are making similar discount—in many cases very much more than the sum named by us. If the method proves satisfactory it will be continued; if it proves unsatisfactory it will be abandoned, as the National intends to, and will, do substantial justice to every claimant against the company, and pay every loss for which it is legally and equitably liable.

A meeting of the directors of the **Equitable Life** was held on Thursday. The board re-elected Paul Morton president and chose William A. Day, who has been controller since the reorganization last June, vice president, to succeed James H. Hyde. Mr. Day was also appointed controller, William Alexander was appointed secretary, Joel C. Van Cise actuary, and H. R. Winthrop treasurer. The president announced these appointments, which were confirmed by the board: G. E. Tarbell, second vice president; George T. Wilson, third vice president; S. S. McCurdy, assistant secretary; C. E. Phelps, assistant secretary; M. Murray, assistant treasurer; W. B. Bremner, assistant treasurer; G. R. Brown, deputy controller; Francis W. Jackson, auditor. The board appointed the following committees:

Executive Committee—The president, the vice president, C. B. Alexander, James B. Forgan, A. C. Humphreys, A. W. Krech, Levi P. Morton, Wallace L. Pierce, V. P. Snyder, Thomas Spratt, J. Edward Swanstrom, E. B. Thomas, George F. Vietor, William Whitman, Charles H. Zehnder.

Finance Committee—The president, E. B. Thomas, T. De Witt Cuyler, Frank S. Witherbee, James McMahon.

Committee on Agencies—A. C. Humphreys, J. J. McCook, John D. Kernan, G. E. Tarbell, George T. Wilson.

Committee on Insurance—Charles H. Zehnder, Charles E. Littlefield, D. Cady Herrick, E. W. Bloomingdale, W. F. McCook.

President Morton made the following statement concerning the meeting:

The board of directors, at their meeting today, considered the proposed amended charter and the letter of Mr. Cleveland by which it was transmitted. The board approved the form of the amended charter and authorized the calling of a special meeting of the stockholders to be held June 18. As no formal action for the adoption of the charter could be taken in view of the injunction in the Lord suit, an adjournment was taken until June 20, when it is expected final action for the adoption of the amended charter will be taken, provided in the meantime the injunction has been dissolved or so modified as to permit such action. While the notice calling the stockholders' meeting will be issued on Saturday, it is with the understanding that any action taken at that meeting must be subject to the action of the court with respect to the injunction. The application of the society for the modification of the injunction will be heard before the Appellate Division in Brooklyn on Monday, and Mr. Hornblower, who has been the chief counsel for the society in this litigation, has been requested to represent it upon that application.

The **Large Cities Association** was organized at Chicago on Tuesday by the representatives of ninety companies, although several large companies, such as the Home, Continental, German American, North British and Mercantile, London and Lancashire and Northwestern National, were not represented. The purpose of the organization is to reduce the commissions of agents and brokers in the cities of Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Louisville, Cincinnati and Cleveland to a reasonable figure. A committee of nine, appointed at the preliminary meeting, reported a plan which, with a few amendments, was adopted, to go into effect when the agreement is signed by companies writing 90 per cent. of the premiums in the cities affected. The plan divides the business into three classes, fixing commissions and brokerages as follows:

The first class is the ordinary preferred business, except unprotected dwellings and non-fireproof churches and schools, for which a commission of 30 per cent. is allowed, out of which a brokerage of 20 per cent. may be paid. The second class includes unprotected dwellings, brick buildings and fireproof and sprinklered risks, and churches and schools of ordinary construction, with 20 per cent. commission and 10 per cent. brokerage. The third class includes all other so called ordinary business, stocks and special hazards, with a 15 per cent. commission and 7½ per cent. brokerage.

Salaried officers are placed on the same footing as other persons concerned. An amendment was adopted providing that every company signing the agreement must become a member of all the local boards in the territory. Covington and Newport were included in the Cincinnati territory. No officers were elected, and no further meetings will be held till the commitee has secured the signatures of the required 90 per cent. Dissatisfied agents in Chicago predict that the percentage will not be obtained.

All **advances to agents** of the Equitable Life will be discontinued after June 1, in compliance with Section 97 of the Armstrong laws, as embodied in the "big bill." That such was the interpretation of the Equitable on the subject was stated yesterday by Second Vice President Gage E. Tarbell to a representative of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER. Accordingly, circulars have been sent out to the agency force announcing the Equitable's position in the matter. Mr. Tarbell said that while the first part of Section 97 would not take effect till the first of the new year, the Equitable construed that relating to advances as being now in force. Vice President George T. Dexter, of the Mutual Life, in charge of the company's agency department, when asked regarding the policy of the Mutual in the matter, said that his company's construction of the law was that the part of the section relating to advances to agents did not take effect till January 1, the same as the earlier portion of the section, which states specifically that "no domestic life insurance corporation shall in any calendar year after the year 1906 expend, etc." The indefiniteness of the phraseology of the big bill, which closes with the usual formula "This act shall take effect immediately," seems to be alone responsible for the different opinions. The position of the New York Life, as stated early in the week to a representative of this paper, was practically the same as that of the Mutual Life, and it was further stated that no steps had been taken in view of that fact. With the majority of the life insurance companies the policy of conforming gradually to the new basis is going on uninterruptedly, so that all agency matters shall be on a sound, legal basis under the new law by January 1, 1907.

At the annual meeting of the **National Fire Protection Association,** held at Chicago last week, the following resolutions were adopted, in addition to those reported last week:

Whereas, The National Fire Protection Association was formed ten years ago "to promote the science and improve the methods of fire protection; to obtain and circulate information on this subject and to secure the co-operation of its members in establishing proper safeguards against loss of life and property by fire," and,

Whereas, In spite of all efforts up to the present time the terrible fire waste of this country has continued uninterrupted involving a loss per capita several times greater than other countries, and,

Whereas, Public protection has not kept pace with the growth of buildings and increase of valuation in congested centres, and as the business conditions and prosperity of the country are liable to interruption if this increasing loss cannot be checked,

Be it Resolved, By the National Fire Protection Association in convention assembled that an urgent appeal be and is hereby made to all interested to co-operate in bringing about better conditions by adopting improved methods of construction, by safeguarding hazards of occupancy and by introducing automatic sprinklers and other private protection with private water supplies quite in addition to the public fire service, and,

Be it Further Resolved, That we recommend that municipalities pass ordinances involving the adoption of an approved building code along the lines of the building code recommended by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, and requiring the introduction of automatic sprinklers

with private water supplies, in buildings of special occupancy and in so called congested districts, to the end that the danger of sweeping conflagrations may be largely eliminated.

The explanation made by Vice President Eldridge for the **withdrawal of the Mutual Reserve Life from England** was as follows:

The amount of business outstanding in Great Britain is so small as not to yield sufficient expense loading to provide therefrom for the cost of maintaining offices and seeking new business in the kingdom. To do so would compel the management to use expense funds from business in other countries, a course that it regards as inequitable. Therefore, in the interest of economy and reduction of expenses, it has determined not to seek further new business in Great Britain, and it has, since the beginning of the year, been gradually closing its various offices as the leases fell in. In the same interest it has also withdrawn its deposit with the Board of Trade. It has now closed its office in London and ceased to transact business in Great Britain, and will confine itself simply to taking care of the business already in force.

The London *Times* in commenting on the sudden announcement that the company had quit says that British policyholders in a company that thus departs are in a helpless position and must submit to practically anything the company dictates. "In only one way," says the *Times*, "can British policyholders of foreign life companies be protected. That is by legislation which will compel the companies to keep here full reserves against all British liabilities and will only allow the reserves to be withdrawn when the liabilities have been run off."

In a further communication to this paper on the **effect of the new legislation in New York on the issuing of participating policies,** Mr. William C. Johnson, New York manager for the Phœnix Mutual Life insurance company, says:

A closer investigation of the insurance law of New York shows that it is open to a different interpretation than that placed upon it in my letter published in your last issue. The sections there quoted provided in effect that a foreign insurance corporation might transact in this State only such kind of insurance as a like domestic corporation is authorized to transact. It is pointed out that the restriction is on the kind of business and not on the manner in which a company may conduct that business which it is authorized to do. In other words, a foreign corporation could transact accident, health, liability, fidelity or life business in this State as the same was permitted of domestic corporations, but could not transact a form of insurance business not authorized in New York. That it was not the legislative intent to prohibit a foreign insurance corporation from issuing both participating and non-participating business will be seen from the provisions of Section 103 of the "Big Bill" recently passed, which provides that foreign corporations issuing both forms of business shall make "a separate statement of profits and losses," etc. The specific recognition of both forms of business which is contained in Section 103 shows that there was no intention on the part of the Legislature to prohibit the issuance of both forms so far as foreign corporations are concerned, and the question of the exact legal significance of Sections 25 and 29 of Article I must be referred to the lawyers.

The **special grand jury** heard testimony this week by Andrew C. Fields, who was the head of the supply department of the Mutual Life insurance company. His evidence went to show that a large amount of money, probably $100,000 a year, went toward legislative expenses, through the device of padded bills for supplies furnished by the Lysander Lawrence Stationery Company. Fields appeared at the Criminal Courts Building in a closed cab. He had come directly from his home. With him were his physician, Dr. Johnson, his son Clarence, and his counsel, ex-Assistant District Attorney Howard Gans. Fields walked on crutches. A clerk of the Mutual Life testified before the jury that he took and hid the records, which the Truesdale Committee could not find, by direction of Vice President Gillette. They were shipped to Hartsdale, in Westchester County, from which they have been recovered by District Attorney Jerome. It is reported that ex-President McCurdy is coming back from Europe to give evidence, under an agreement made with the district attorney prior to his departure last March.

At a meeting of the trustees of the **Mutual Life insurance company,** held on Thursday, the appointment of William W. Stevenson as comptroller of the company by the president was announced and was ratified by the board. New committees were elected as follows:

Finance Committee—George F. Baker, Augustus D. Juillard, Frederic Cromwell, Emory McClintock, vice president; Adrian Iselin, Jr., James N. Jarvie, the president chairman.

Insurance and Agencies—Julien T. Davies, Henry H. Rogers, H. McK. Twombly, Emory McClintock, vice president; William H. Truesdale, Dumont Clarke, the president chairman.

Real Estate Committee—Charles R. Henderson, William P. Dixon, Charles Lanier, Emory McClintock, vice president; Charles S. Brown, Louis Stern, the president chairman.

Mortuary Claims—Charles D. Dickey, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Leroy Springs, Emory McClintock, vice president; Hugo Baring, the president chairman.

Auditing Committee—John W. Auchincloss, Theodore Mofford, George P. Miller, William C. McMillan.

Charles R. Henderson was dropped from the finance committee and Frederick Cromwell, former treasurer and president, succeeded G. G. Haven, resigned.

The **Cosmopolitan Fire of New York,** organized by Adolph Loeb & Sons, of Chicago, perfected its organization Tuesday with the following directors: James J. Phelan, former dock commissioner; Max E. Bernheimer, president of the Bernheimer-Schwartz Brewing Company; F. Augustus Heinze, Charles I. Winchester, of C. I. Winchester & Co.; Max H. Schultze, of Otto Heinze & Co., bankers; S. H. Kohn, former president of the Chrome Steel Works; H. A. Scheftel, of J. S. Bache & Co.; Harry H. Meyer, of Seligman & Meyer; Benjamin E. Bensinger, president of the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company; Joseph Beifeld, Chicago; Joseph Harris, vice president of the Automatic Electric Company of Chicago; Adolph Loeb and Leo A. Loeb, of Adolph Loeb & Sons, Chicago. The company will begin with a capital of $300,000, and a paid in surplus of $150,000.

On the Evils of a Sensational Press, from the June number of *Century Magazine:*

It is the evil power of a sensational press to increase the evil sentiment on which it thrives. The periodicals that live on false witness, one-sided statements, doctored news, demagogic appeals; the loud calling of public attention to all the big or petty crimes in the calendar; that fan the vices by their constant parade of them; that disseminate class hatred; that are vindictive in their enmities; that are used to advance the selfish and impertinent ambitions of their owners; that exploit good causes for private emolument or personal advancement; that bring suspicion upon restrained, accurate, disinterested criticism of public men by their reckless attacks; that make reform odius by conscienceless imitations of its honest activities; that, in a word, live by cultivating the appetite for sensationalism; such periodicals are the parents of all the vulgarities. Opposition to such sources of evil encourages the "journalism of conscience," as Norman Hapgood calls it—in its competition with the conscienceless; and is a service to American democracy.

The Mutual Life, at a hearing given by Attorney General Sturdevant of Wisconsin on Tuesday, agreed to abide by the new statute of the State regarding **deferred dividend policies** and cease writing them in Wisconsin. The Madison *Democrat* of Wednesday says:

The event partook more in the nature of a conference than of a hearing. When the effectiveness of the new statute was questioned in connection with the State legislative insurance investigation in Milwaukee, Commissioner Host called upon Attorney General Sturdevant for an official opinion as to whether the new law accomplished the purpose for which it was enacted. This opinion has not yet been rendered. In the meantime the Mutual intimated its willingness to abide by the spirit of the law, deeming it effective legislation, and expressed a desire to confer with the State authorities regarding the form of a policy to take the place of the deferred dividend contract. This was the cause of the conference. The statute in question is chapter 448 of the laws of 1905.

Testifying before the House Judiciary Committee on the Ames bill, **Max Cohen said:** "I am willing to go on record that even

the $1,000,000 which was spent by President McCall, under the auspices of 'Andy' Hamilton, was justified. And I further say it has not only saved millions of dollars to the policyholders of that company, but millions of dollars to the policyholders of other companies." Mr. Cohen added that there was a tendency on the part of State legislators generally to "hold up" the insurance companies when they endeavored to block unfair legislation. He made a vigorous protest against the enactment of legislation on the basis that the managers of the insurance business of the country are dishonest. It was a sad reflection to send out, especially to foreign countries.

The following **notice to San Francisco policyholders of the Royal insurance company** appears in the advertising columns of the daily papers of that city:

No attorney, collection or other agency necessary for presentation of claims. All losses will be paid in cash without discount after adjustment. If policies are lost or burned, report to us. We have complete records. Claims may be filed at our city or Oakland offices. We will not require of our policyholders "immediate notice of any loss" arising from the San Francisco disaster, but will be pleased to receive promptly present addresses of claimants. Time within which proofs of loss may be presented will be extended upon request. Office for adjustment of losses and transaction of city business, northwest corner Pine and Fillmore streets, San Francisco. Temporary office for transaction of Pacific Coast business other than San Francisco, 1252 Clay street, corner Fifteenth, Oakland.

ROLLA V. WATT, Manager.

The **reduction of medical examiners' fees** by several life insurance companies has created a commotion among the doctors, and they are expressing surprise and indignation galore in their conventions and journals. The *California Journal of Medicine* has compiled a partial list of companies, according to the fee they now pay for ordinary examinations, as follows.

Five dollar companies—Ætna Life, Connecticut Mutual Life, Home Life, Manhattan Life, Mutual Benefit Life, National Life of Vermont, New England Mutual Life, Northwestern Mutual Life, Phœnix Mutual Life, Provident Life and Trust, State Life, Union Mutual Life.

Three dollar companies—Bankers Life of Des Moines, New York Life, Equitable Life of New York, Mutual Life of New York, Fidelity Mutual Life, Metropolitan Life, Union Central Life, Washington Life.

At the meeting of stockholders of the **Connecticut Fire insurance company**, held on Tuesday, 85 per cent. of the stock, 8,340 shares, was voted unanimously approving the recommendations of the board of directors to pay in $1,000,000 in cash, practically assessing the stock $100 a share. The stock was reduced to 5,000 shares at the meeting, and immediately restored to the original 10,000 shares, the limit for taking the new shares on June 20 being fixed at $200 per share. Fifty per cent. must be paid in cash by July 5, the balance by October 15. It is expected that 75 per cent. of the $1,000,000 will be paid in by July 5.

The stockholders of the **Alliance of Philadelphia** have received notice of an assessment on their stock of $15 per share, $10 being payable on June 15, and $5 when called for by the directors. The conditions of the assessment are that as much will be applied to the capital as may be necessary to make good any impairment caused by the San Francisco conflagration, and the remainder will be placed to the credit of the surplus account. The Alliance is controlled by the same interests that own the Insurance Company of North America, and there is little doubt but that the stockholders will come to the front and see the company through.

The **Insurance Commissioner of California,** who sent out an appeal to the other insurance departments to assist him in compelling the fire insurance companies to pay earthquake, dynamite and all other possible claims at San Francisco, regardless of their policy contracts, has seen a new light. He has now written to the different insurance departments urging that, "in dealing with the fire insurance companies of this State and other States and countries, you exercise the utmost discretion permitted by law, to the end that property be conserved, and the greatest good rendered to the greatest number."

Authorized by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department to do business on the "old line" basis, the **Philadelphia Life insurance company** has reorganized and after a special examination by the department enters the field with $300,000 capital. The company starts with over $8,000,000 of paid for business on its books, and some $2,000,000 issued and yet to be paid for. Application has already been made for admission to New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. In the charter of the Philadelphia Life is a provision, which prohibits other than policyholders becoming stockholders.

For some time the **Chicago** Underwriters' Association has been trying to have the public works department stop the putting in of **6 inch mains,** regarding them as inadequate for future growth. W. L. O'Connell, the Commissioner of Public Works, has offered to lay no more mains of less than 8 inches in diameter, provided the underwriters will agree to grant a reduction of rates in the districts affected. Insurance men say that the advantage, while desirable, would not be sufficient to justify the proposed reduction.

Two towers, bearing tanks of 100,000 gallons capacity each, and rising to a height of 240 feet, have been erected by the **Boston and Maine Railroad** for the protection of the great grain elevators recently constructed at the Hoosac Tunnel and Mystic River docks, Boston, and other wharf property of the road. Both the corporation and the companies insuring its property have had a bitter experience of disastrous fires on these docks, and everything possible is being done to prevent a recurrence of such destruction.

A committee of the Chicago Board has recommended that all **flat buildings** with 50 feet or more frontage, and over four stories high, be **specifically rated** hereafter, the published rate to carry the 80 per cent. contribution clause. Heretofore flat buildings have been rated under the minimum tariff. There was also a recommendation that the 80 per cent. contribution clause apply to all buildings with more than 50 feet frontage, and occupied as apartments or flats, or for commercial purposes, or both.

The **National Association for Uniform Inspection Reports** was formed last week in Chicago by inspectors who had been in attendance on the meeting of the National Fire Protection Association. William A. Stoney, of the Underwriters' Bureau of the Middle and Southern States, is president, and R. W. Hilliard, secretary of the New England Bureau of United Inspections, secretary and treasurer. It will formulate a uniform report for inspections and re-inspections on sprinklered risks.

The **Kentucky Inter-Southern Life insurance company,** which has filed articles of incorporation, with a capital stock of $250,000, of which $100,000 is surplus, will have twenty-five directors. The provision is made that no officer shall receive a salary greater than 10 per cent. of the salaries for similar offices in the large insurance companies of the United States.

The following committees of the **South Eastern Tariff Association** have been appointed by President Dargan: Arbitra-

tion—E. G. Snow, chairman; Charles J. Holman, F. O. Affield, M. O. Brown, Charles H. Post, George W. Dewey, George W. Burchell, Clarence F. Low, A. W. Damon, E. G. Richards, Henry E. Rees, E. L. Ellison, W. E. Chapin, Robt. Lecky, Jr., George J. Dexter. Cotton Gins—W. R. Prescott, chairman; R. A. Hancock, J. F. Stockdell, B. H. Abrams, F. M. Mikel.

Between the covers of **The Casualty Primer,** published by the *Insurance Field,* just out, is a host of information and ideas on casualty underwriting for the instruction of agents. All branches of the casualty business are taken up thoroughly in plain language by the author, W. C. Grigsby, and samples of application blanks and questions for agents to ask are also included. The book is a pioneer in the field of casualty instruction and supplies a long felt demand.

That the **Pacific Mutual Life** has any intention of ceasing to write life insurance in New York State after January 1 because of the working of the Armstrong law was denied this week by Manager Boldman, who said he had not even hinted at such a thing. To corroborate this statement Mr. Boldman called attention to the lease of the new and roomier quarters at 76 William street, New York, of which the company will take possession early in June.

A watch fob contest has been inaugurated by the **Philadelphia Casualty Company** for the benefit of its agents who send in ten or more $5,000 accident applications or their equivalents before July 15. The fob is of gold and will have on one side the agent's name and on the other the company's name and the words "Honor Medal." Premiums to count in the contest must be received at the office within thirty days after the close of the contest.

Under an order from Judge Lowell, of the United States District Court for the State of Rhode Island, where most of the assets of the defunct **Royal Society of Good Fellows** were found, Receiver F. P. Cabot has distributed $20,000 to holders of death claims, making a 10 per cent. dividend, which is all they will get. The other members get their experience and an abiding conviction that "good fellowship" doesn't count in the emergencies of life.

A tabulation of the **expense rate of twenty-six largest life insurance companies** in the United States shows that the average ratio for 1905 was lower than for any year since 1896, while the reforms instituted by the companies will tend to reduce the rate still lower. The average expense rate per cent. of mean insurance in force was .93 per cent., while the average for the past decade was .98 per cent.

The **Chicago Life Underwriters' Association** will hold its closing dinner for the association at the Midday Club on the evening of June 17, Bunker Hill Day. In honor of the occasion there will be special patriotic decorations and music, and the leading address, by Senator F. W. Parker, will be on national topics. John I. Harden, of Indianapolis, will read a paper on "The Psychology of Soliciting."

The **executive committee of the National Board of Fire Underwriters** held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, and organized by the election as chairman of A. W. Damon, president of the Springfield Fire and Marine. In the absence of Mr. Damon, Mr. Babb was requested to act as chairman pro tem. The Munich Reinsurance Company was unanimously elected a member of the Board.

Several of the companies which have reinsured **the Traders of Chicago** have served notice upon it that if it pays earthquake or dynamite losses at San Francisco they will not consider themselves bound by their reinsurance contract. Its attorneys advise that the point is not good, and that the companies can be held as liable to the insured direct, if necessary.

Now that the Iowa fire insurance companies are branching out into other States, they are finding trouble as a result of the local custom of **figuring their reserves** on the 40 per cent. basis. In consequence, they are preparing to ask the Legislature to amend the insurance laws so that the Iowa Department will value their reserves on the New York plan.

Organized with a capital of $300,000, the **Northern Life of Illinois** has been chartered at Chicago. Lee F. Cole, formerly with the New York Life and Northwestern Mutual Life, is secretary and manager. Miles M. Dawson, of New York, has drawn up the plans and rates of the company, many of which are new departures in the business.

The German fire insurance companies have sent Charles Flach to the United States **to investigate sprinklered risk methods,** with a view to extending that form of protection in their country. He is now in Chicago interviewing the officials of the Underwriters' Laboratories and the Western Factory Insurance Association.

The stockholders of the **Niagara Fire insurance company,** at a special meeting held on Thursday, unanimously voted to reduce the capital from $500,000 to $250,000. Another meeting of the stockholders will be held promptly to adopt a proposition to increase the capital to $750,000, the new stock to be subscribed at a large premium.

At the meeting of the **New York Fire Insurance Exchange,** held on May 25, the action of the Exchange on May 4 in advancing certain rates was reaffirmed unanimously, and Henry Evans, who had resigned the vice presidency of the Exchange, was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy caused by his resignation.

The Chicago City Council has enacted an ordinance **forbidding the sale of fireworks** before June 29, and requiring them to be taken off sale the day after the Fourth. The keeping of the more hazardous explosives is forbidden entirely, and a material reduction of Fourth of July losses is hoped for.

The **resignation of George W. Perkins** as a trustee of the New York Life insurance company will be presented to the board at its next regular meeting on June 13, and will be accepted. Mr. Perkins announced his determination to retire from all official connection with the company two weeks ago.

The **Travelers insurance company,** which tested the right of the State of Kentucky to forbid it to remove a case from the State to the Federal courts, has been relicensed by Commissioner Prewitt. Under an agreement the old license remained in force until the case was determined by the highest court.

An advance in rates was decided upon Thursday at a meeting of the **Underwriters' Association of New York State,** held at Syracuse. The action was taken on the recommendation of the committee conferring with the Committee of Fifteen. The rates took effect Friday, May 26, at noon.

A charter has been granted the **Home Fire of McAlester, I. Ter.**, whose capital is $200,000, half of which is subscribed. Officers elected are: James F. George, Dardanelle, Ark., president; S. R. George, Magazine, Ark., vice president, and A. L. George, McAlester, secretary-treasurer.

The **Ohio insurance superintendentship** is to be settled soon, and the growing belief is that Governor Pattison will again reappoint A. I. Vorys. P. W. Ward, of Cleveland, State agent of the Ocean Accident, and secretary of the legislative investigating committee, is an applicant.

A cable dispatch of Thursday says that all the American insurance men in London are anticipating, within a short time, a **French Government** decree with regard to insurance, which practically will drive American companies out of the insurance business in France.

The **Hawkeye Fire insurance company** of Des Moines is seeking admission to Tennessee, Louisiana and Mississippi, where it will be represented by the W. L. Nelson general agency of Memphis, and has also applied in Oklahoma and Indian Territories.

The **agents of the Penn Mutual Life in Georgia and South Carolina** met at Atlanta and organized an association to get the agents in closer touch. J. E. Wilhelm, agency director, was elected president, and J. D. Lawrence and J. O. Jones vice presidents.

Officers have been elected as follows for the **People's Fire of New York** just organized: President, George R. Weed; secretary, Daniel Woodcock; assistant secretary, Ed. H. Faulkner; Daniel Woodcock & Co., general managers.

The **Marquette Mutual Life of Chicago** is now writing substandard business. If the insured dies within five years from the date of taking out the policy the claim is not scaled, but it is paid on the long term instalment plan.

Ohio field men are closely scrutinizing their **coal mine business** owing to the labor troubles now on, growing out of the efforts of the operators to reopen the mines with non-union labor.

The regular weekly sessions of the **New England Insurance Exchange** have been suspended until September 22. Meanwhile the Exchange will meet on June 16 and August 18.

The **American Central of St. Louis** has arranged to issue 10,000 new shares to be sold at $200 per share, adding $1,000,000 to the capital and $1,000,000 to the surplus.

San Francisco fire underwriters are asking to be consulted in the selection of **chief of the fire department** to succeed Chief Sullivan, who was killed by the earthquake.

A charter has been granted the **Southern Life and Health insurance company** of Atlanta, Ga., to do business on mutual lines. It has no capital stock.

Public hearings by the **New Jersey Senate Life Insurance Investigating Committee** began June 1. They are held in the Senate Chamber at Trenton.

The **Union of Buffalo** has been admitted to Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Delaware and Reliance: Charles L. Hecox, of Columbus, State agent for Ohio.

Franklin Fire of Philadelphia: A. M. L. Wasson, special agent for Illinois; M. F. Grim, special agent for Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia.

Newark Fire: J. H. MacFarlane, Western special agent, with headquarters at Chicago.

Union of Buffalo: Webster & Baker, Hartford, Conn.; H. C. Bretzfelder, New Haven; Arthur O'Leary, Providence.

Ex-Attorney General Frank S. Monnett, of Ohio, the notorious insurance baiter, has been censured by a grand jury at Bucyrus, Ohio, for instigating litigation against two Ohio railroad companies, which he settled for $6,000 attorneys' fees for himself and associates. The grand jury said in its report: "This suit was brought 'in the interest of the people,' but absolutely nothing was accomplished for the people, and they were in no way benefited."

Mr. Nelson B. Bassett, at present in charge of the loss department of the Scottish Union and National insurance company, at Hartford, has been appointed secretary of the general adjustment bureau, and will remove to New York to assume his new duties at an early date.

Fire Marshal Champion, of Chicago, has been peremptorily dismissed by Mayor Dunne for alleged disobeyance of orders. Fire underwriters protested against the mayor's action, but afterward asked for the appointment of Assistant Fire Marshal Horan to the vacancy.

Mr. William J. Suiles, of Milwaukee, Wis., has been appointed general agent for Wisconsin and upper Michigan of the Northwestern Mutual Life, succeeding the late Daniel E. Murphy. He has been twenty-three years with the company.

Mr. Howard H. Hoyt, formerly Western manager of the Equitable Life, and recently vice president of the Chicago Life, has been appointed general field superintendent of the Columbian National, with headquarters in Chicago.

Mr. Alexander Greig, vice president of the Federal Union Surety Company, of Indianapolis, Ind., and former vice president of the National Surety Company, died in New York on Monday, from apoplexy, aged sixty-eight years.

Mr. Simeon A. Henry, vice president of P. C. Ralli & Co., insurance brokers, of 50 Pine street, New York, died Monday, in Roosevelt Hospital, after a lingering illness, aged seventy-one years.

Mr. Reuben J. Taylor, manager of the loss department of the Continental Fire of New York, died Wednesday as a result of injuries received in an automobile accident. He was sixty-eight years old.

President George L. Chase, of the Hartford Fire insurance company, whose serious illness has been giving concern to his friends, is reported to be making satisfactory progress toward convalescence.

Mr. Thomas A. Duffey, of 100 William street, New York, has been appointed general agent for New England of the Southern of New Orleans.

Mr. Charles J. Wylde, of Halifax, Canada, representing the Liverpool and London and Globe there, died May 17, after a lingering illness.

S. H. Lockett has resigned as secretary of the Committee of Twenty of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

Obituary.

Death of Dr. Charles C. Bombaugh.

Dr. Charles Carroll Bombaugh, for many years editor and proprietor of the *Baltimore Underwriter* and one of the most worthy and distinguished members of the guild of insurance writers, died at his home in Park avenue, Baltimore, Md., on the night of Thursday, May 24. He had been in declining health for several months, and during the last two weeks of his life was confined to his bed by an attack of gastritis, which proved fatal.

He was born at Harrisburg, Pa., February 10, 1828, from remote Pennsylvania German ancestry. His great-grandfather Conrad was a soldier in the Continental Army of the Revolution, and was chief burgess of Harrisburg in 1794, and as such received and entertained Washington when on his way with the army to quell the famous western Pennsylvania "whiskey insurrection." Dr. Bombaugh was prepared for Harvard University at the Academy of Alden Partridge, and was graduated from Harvard in the class of 1850. He followed this with a course of medicine at the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, from which he received his degree in 1853.

When the Civil War broke out Dr. Bombaugh was actively engaged in the practice of medicine at Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia. At the solicitation of Col. E. C. Baker (afterward killed

at Balls Bluff) he entered the medical service of the Union Army and was commissioned surgeon in August, 1861. He served throughout the war, and retired from it in shattered health.

While continuing his connection with his profession as an examiner for life insurance companies, Dr. Bombaugh after the war devoted himself more particularly to literary pursuits. In 1865 he established the *Baltimore Underwriter,* which he conducted thirty-three years with an ability, vigor and independence that placed it in the front ranks of insurance journals. He retired from its management about eight years ago.

Aside from frequent contributions to medical and other journals, some of which were translated into foreign languages, Dr. Bombaugh made addresses before medical, military and underwriting associations in various parts of the country. At the centennial celebration in 1885 of the founding of the city of Harrisburg and the county of Dauphin, he was chosen poet of the occasion. His favorite pastime was rambling among the byways of literature, a diversion which led to the compilation of several books, the most popular of which was "Gleanings for the Curious." To this, toward the close of life, was added as a companion volume, by request of the J. B. Lippincott Company, "Facts and Fancies for the Curious." His most important original work was "Stratagems and Conspiracies to Defraud Life Insurance Companies," an authentic record of all the remarkable cases.

For many years Dr. Bombaugh took an active interest in the proceedings of the American Academy of Medicine, and especially in the attainment of one of its chief objects, the promotion of a higher standard of preliminary education to enter upon the study of medicine, and the lengthening of the course in the medical colleges and hospitals in conformity with the great advancement of medical science. He was a member of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, the American Medical Association, the Maryland Harvard Club, of which he was president, and the University Club of Baltimore, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, the Maryland Society of Sons of the American Revolution and various other associations.

Dr. Bombaugh was the most lovable of men, poet, orator, scholar, patriot, good fellow, gentleman. His life was a benefaction. In many ways his influence upon insurance, to whose elevation and advancement he devoted the most part of a lifetime, will endure.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Louisiana.

Baton Rouge, La., May 30.—There have been introduced in the House by Mr. Guilbeau the following insurance bills affecting life insurance.

An act requiring life insurance companies organized under the laws of this State to have a fully paid up capital before beginning business and have a deposit of $100,000 with the State Treasurer after January 1, 1907.

An act requiring life insurance companies to contain the entire contract between the company and the insured, and the statements purporting to be made by the assured to be representation, not warranties. The law takes effect January 1, 1907.

An act prohibiting life insurance companies from forfeiting policies for default in the payment of premiums, interest or instalments, unless written or printed notice has been mailed to the policyholder or the assignee of the policy.

An act requiring life insurance companies, or companies isuing participating policies, to make an anual distribution of surplus and prohibiting life insurance companies issuing participating policies from doing business in this State after January 1, 1907, unless the provisions of this act are complied with.

An act making life or endowment insurance policies issued by legal reserve life insurance companies or associations to residents of this State non-forfeitable after January 1, 1907, after three years' premiums have been paid, and providing penalties for the violation of the law.

Mr. Dale has introduced the following in the House:

An act to amend and re-enact Section 28 of Act 170 of 1898, entitled "An act to provide an annual revenue for the State of Louisiana by the levying of annual taxes on all the property not exempt from taxation, and by prescribing the method of collecting the same and of enforcing payment thereof in the several parishes of the State." The act assesses all the property of life insurance companies as in a personal valuation.

Mr. Hennessey has introduced a bill in the Senate providing that misrepresentation shall not void the policy, and a jury is to decide what effect the misrepresentation had. Section 2 provides that a plea of misrepresentation shall not be valid in suits brought against the company unless the defendant company deposits in court on or before the day of trial, for the benefit of the plaintiffs, the premiums hereafter received on such policies, with 6 per cent. per annum from date of receipt.

A bill has been introduced by Mr. C. C. Freidrichs, entitled "An act to prevent discrimination by life insurance companies against policyholders." The act contains a retroactive clause to govern policies now in force.

Mr. Thom, in the House, has introduced a bill to amend and reenact Section 8 of Act 78 of 1898, reclassifying the license tax system prevailing in the State. The tax of three-quarters of 1 per cent. on all premiums remains. Companies in the first class will hereafter pay on a basis of one million and a half, instead, as formerly, on one of $700,000, and so on down the line. Classification for taxation purposes is by $10,000 increase for each.

Senator Barrett has introduced a bill to prohibit the co-insurance clause in Louisiana fire insurance policies.

United States Congress.

Washington, D. C., May 27.—The Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives, which has been giving protracted hearings on the Ames bill for a model insurance law for the District of Columbia, has finally agreed not to make a report on the bill this session.

Official Reports.

Michigan Fire Insurance Report.

In his fire insurance report for 1906, just published, Commissioner Barry has the following comments on the fire insurance situation in Michigan:

The year 1905 was one of unusual prosperity for the fire insurance companies transacting business in this State. With scarcely an exception the States throughout the Union contributed to this result. Low loss ratios prevailed almost everywhere. Michigan with a loss ratio of 39 per cent., the lowest in its history, contributed her full share to the favorable experience of the companies.

One year ago the attention of the companies was directed to the low loss ratio of the State for the preceding three years and

the statement made that this situation "warrants a due consideration by the insurance companies of their duty to treat the insuring public with such fairness that the equities may be fully preserved."

As the result of this favorable experience and the competition due to the constantly increasing number of companies bidding for business, material reductions in rates have been made within the past six months. The first reduction was one of 33 1-3 per cent. on all brick mercantile buildings used exclusively for mercantile or mercantile and dwelling purposes throughout the State, and of 16 2-3 per cent on brick opera houses, hotels, &c. The second was a reduction of 12½ per cent. on frame store buildings and contents located in unprotected towns in the northern half of the lower peninsula. In addition to these, wherever it applies, the system of schedule rating, under which every property owner practically makes his own rate, has been taken advantage of by thousands of property owners who, by making the improvements noted in the schedules, have not only materially reduced their premium rate but have lessened the fire waste. As a natural result of the

FAVORABLE EXPERIENCE OF THE STATE

for four successive years the number of companies transacting business in Michigan has greatly increased until, at the date of this report, there are more companies authorized by this department than ever before, and steps have been taken by several other companies preliminary to making application for admission to the State. The healthy competition on the part of financially responsible companies incident to this condition of affairs is, in my judgment, cause for congratulation on the part of the insuring public of Michigan, not only because the latter will secure the lowest premium rates consistent with sound underwriting, but also because the largely increased number of solvent companies affords the large insurer ample facilities and guarantees the property owner full protection in case of a disaster such as has just been suffered by a sister State.

After a careful investigation and study of this question I am satisfied that the property owners of Michigan are enjoying as favorable premium rates, considering the nature and condition of the risks involved, as are the people of any other State in the Union.

The average premium rate as a basis of comparison is both unfair and deceptive unless exactly the same conditions prevail in every case. This is thoroughly proven by the fact that while, as has been stated, a reduction of 33 1-3 per cent. has recently been made in the rates covering a large classification of Michigan risks, this very reduction will have a tendency to increase the average premium rate of the State for the current year. This is so because in order to secure the reduction the property owner is required to insure for a term of three years instead of but one year as heretofore. In return he obtains three years' indemnity for twice the annual premium. Therefore, in case of a $1,000 policy for which the property owner last year paid $14 for one year's indemnity he will this year pay $28 for indemnity for three years. It will be readily seen that the premium rate on this policy last year was $1.40, whereas this year it is $2.80, notwithstanding the fact that the premium has been actually reduced 33 1-3 per cent.

COMPARISON OF THE RATES OF DIFFERENT STATES

is equally deceptive, for the reason that the rate of no two States is computed on the same basis. For instance, for years the stock companies have written practically no farm business in Michigan, more than 95 per cent. of all the farm risks being carried by the so called farmers' mutual companies. None of this vast business enters into the computation of the average rate in Michigan. If, in computing the average premium rate in Michigan, farm risks were taken into consideration, the average rate of this State for 1905 would be less than 95 cents. It will be readily seen, therefore, that the policy of underwriters with regard to the writing of this class of business in the several States must have a marked effect upon the average rate of the respective States.

As further proof of the assertion that the average rate depends wholly upon the classifications of risks included in the computation, the average rate in Michigan for 1905 of the mutual companies of other States transacting business in this State may be cited. As a rule this class of companies maintains no agency plants, their expenses being thus reduced to a minimum, and they furnish indemnity practically at cost. Yet the sworn statements of these companies show that their average premium rate in Michigan for 1905 was $1.99, or more than 50 cents per $100 of insurance at risk higher than the general average of the State, farm risks not included. The reason for this greatly increased average rate is that the business of this class of companies consists almost exclusively of manufacturing and other special hazards, there being no offset from residence property and other low rated risks.

The two States which in all computations are classified with Michigan because of similarity of risks and class of business transacted by the companies are Wisconsin and Minnesota. The sworn statements of the stock companies show that for the five year period ending December 31, 1904, the latest period for which the figures are available, the average premium in each of these States was greater than that of Michigan, while the loss ratio of each was less. The so called

ANTI-COMPACT LAW FOR MICHIGAN

prohibits fire insurance companies of other States and countries authorized to transact business in this State, or their agents from entering into any agreement the object or effect of which is to prevent free and open competition. Every such company is required to file in this department a signed stipulation in accordance with this law. It is made the duty of the commissioner of insurance to revoke the certificate of authority of any company violating this statute, and this is the sole and only penalty that can be inflicted upon the company under this law. No where in this statute is there to be found any provision authorizing the commissioner to remit this penalty in consideration of a reduction of premium rates. The sole province of the commissioner of insurance is to execute the law as he finds it, and I shall promptly revoke the license of any company if I am able to find evidence that it has violated this law. Companies transacting business in this State must understand that they cannot purchase immunity from the penalty fixed by the statute by reducing rates or resorting to any other subterfuge.

The present commissioner has insisted not only that the companies obey the laws of this State, but also that they should avoid even the appearance of evil. For a number of years the Michigan stock fire companies, to which the anti-compact law does not apply, maintained in this State an inspection and rating bureau which promulgated advisory rates and through which daily reports of agents were sent to the several companies. Under this system it was possible for the companies to violate the law without leaving any tangible evidence of such violation. During the past year this stamping bureau has been abolished and the inspection and rate making bureau divorced from all company ownership and supervision, and is now purely an individual enterprise. The daily report of agents are now sent direct to the respective companies.

Insurance agents have the same right to organize for legitimate purposes as have men engaged in any other business. When, however, they in any wise attempt to control or regulate rates, either directly or indirectly, they transgress the law. In several instances the commissioner of insurance has had occasion to order the elimination from the constitution, laws and rules of local organizations of fire insurance agents provisions which were contrary to the law. The most notable instance of such action on the part of this department was the recent demand that the Fire Underwriters' Club of Detroit rescind its so-called non-intercourse rule, which provided for the fining of any member who accepted business from an agent not a member of the club, and also the rule which sought to limit the number of agents a company might have within the limits of the city of Detroit. The wisdom and necessity of making provision for the accumulation of a

SUBSTANTIAL SURPLUS BY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES

has again been forcibly demonstrated by the disastrous conflagration which wiped out millions of dollars' worth of property in San Francisco. This surplus, which is often cited by the uninformed as proof of the assertion that the public is being plundered, is all that, in this emergency, stood between the public and a financial panic compared with which the San Francisco disaster would pale into insignificance. The utter absurdity of the contention, so frequently made, that the business of the companies should be conducted on a system which provided for the collection of simply sufficient rates to pay current losses and expenses, or which rated a community or a State on its own experience alone, is conclusively shown by the San Francisco conflagration. Had the fire underwriters been so criminally reckless as to conduct their business along these lines, San Francisco could never recover from this disaster and the collapse of scores of fire insurance companies would have destroyed the foundations upon which rest the commercial enterprises of this country and thus have precipitated a general panic.

In the light of the experiences of the past two years it should no longer be foolishly contended by anyone that the conflagration hazard is not an ever present menace. The underwriter who fails to take cognizance of this hazard is wholly unfitted for his task.

Miscellany.

Ex-Manager Haldeman's Attempt to Transfer the Mutual Life Policyholders to the North British and Mercantile.

London newspapers received through mails arriving this week contain the documents in the case of the proposed reinsurance of the British policyholders of the Mutual Life insurance company of New York in the North British and Mercantile insurance company, as engineered by former general manager D. C. Haldeman, and the comments of the British press on the scheme. As only an outline of these matters has been cabled to this country, we give space to the text of some of them.

MR. HALDEMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT.

The following was Mr. Haldeman's announcement to the policyholders:

To the British Policyholders of The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.—You have already been informed that I have resigned my position as general manager for Great Britain and Ireland of the Mutual Life insurance company of New York. For reasons fully explained to you in a circular dated April 26 last, issued by the British Policyholders' Protection Committee, that resignation takes effect today. I now feel at liberty, and, indeed, regard it as my duty, at the earliest possible moment to place before you a few facts which have led up to my taking the very serious step of breaking a connection with a company whose business in the United Kingdom I established and have built up by nineteen years of strenuous work.

In 1887, when I opened the branch in Cornhill, a strong prejudice existed against American companies, and it was therefore with genuine satisfaction that I was able to point to the position held by the Mutual of New York among British offices prior to the recent scandals in America—a position never attained by any other American office. The confidence of the British public had been gained; for, starting in 1887 with no business whatever, I was able, during the nineteen years of my connection with the company, to build up a business of over £15,000,000 sterling, representing a premium income of not less than £630,000 per annum, and at a cost below the average of the English companies.

I was able to do this because of my firm belief in the probity and ability of the company's trustees and executive officers, and, when the scandals arose last year in the other American offices, I received the strongest assurances from New York that nothing similar had ever occurred in the Mutual; that the examinations then being conducted by the Insurance Department of the State of New York would disclose no syndicates of officers and trustees making a profit out of the company; that it would reveal no culpable use of its funds and no violation of law; that no resignations of officers or trustees would be demanded; no restitutions would be found to be due from any official; no suit brought for penalties of any kind; and that anything suggested implying unfaithfulness was impossible.

I therefore did not hesitate to uphold the company's position in the United Kingdom, telling our representatives here that, while I did not claim perfection for the Mutual, I did claim that the company had been honestly managed. My attitude in the matter was not concealed from the home office, because in November last I wrote them that I could not sit down quietly under such irregularities as had been exposed in connection with other companies and were then being suggested in regard to the Mutual. Towards the end of the year, however, when the exposures with reference to the Mutual came to light, the position had become almost intolerable for me, and I accordingly wrote to the superintendent a long letter, under date of December 23, 1905, requesting him to place it before the investigating committee appointed by the board of trustees, which, I saw by the newspapers, consisted of Messrs. Truesdale, Auchincloss and Fish. To this and to subsequent letters (which are open to inspection) I have received only the scantiest reply, while some of the most important questions have been absolutely ignored.

As I had not been allowed to publish any statement with regard to the existing agitation in life insurance matters in America, or concerning the examination the Insurance Department of the State of New York was making of the Mutual, I was not surprised when, on January 30, I received a request to attend an informal meeting of some of those most largely interested in the Mutual, who had become very much alarmed at the reports appearing in the papers. I cabled to my head office asking whether I should attend, and received their reply to do so, and when asked by the chairman of that meeting whether I would protect, as far as lay in my power, the interests of those policyholders who had invested their money in the Mutual on the strength of my representations, I replied:

"I can only say that the interests of the policyholders, especially the British policyholders, are to me paramount above all others. Having established the business here, it is my duty to do all I can to protect the policyholders' interests. While the ideas of the head office in a mutual company ought not to, and I sincerely hope will not, conflict in any way with these interests, I am willing to place myself in the policyholders' hands and accept full responsibility."

Resolutions were passed at this meeting which were to be sent to the papers at once. On my intervention the meeting was kept private, and on February 3 I sent the resolutions embodying my remarks to my head office for their consideration, and I followed this up by a personal letter to Mr. McClintock, whom I have known for years, and for whom I had the highest esteem, but I have not even yet received any acknowledgment of this letter.

I told Mr. McClintock that the condition of affairs had become simply intolerable, and that they must be altered.

Soon after this I received a circular addressed to the company's agents, signed by Vice President and Actuary McClintock, with instructions to supply our agents with copies. This circular said that:

"The Mutual's results compare favorably with the average results of other companies."

I cabled Mr. McClintock that this statement was not correct when compared with English companies, and that the circular should not be issued here. I found, however, that it had been sent direct from my head office to my branch offices throughout the kingdom. These are a few of many facts which have weighed with me in coming to the decision to withdraw entirely from the Mutual. I feel a grave personal responsibility in the whole mater, and I candidly admit that the whole position during the past few months has caused me the greatest possible anxiety and worry, more especially as I have been receiving scores of letters from policyholders asking my advice as to what they ought to do. In the midst of these anxieties a plan was formulated by the North British and Mercantile insurance company, a British office of the highest standing, which I deemed to be so advantageous to our British policyholders that I felt it my duty to place it at once before the policyholders' committee. This committee, after careful consideration, most cordially supported the plan, which is briefly as follows:

"Each policyholder to surrender his policy in the Mutual to the North British and Mercantile insurance company, and in exchange, upon payment of the same premium as provided in his Mutual policy, to receive, without medical examination, and free of all expense, a policy on the same lines as his Mutual policy, but with the usual liberal privileges and conditions relating to the North British and Mercantile insurance company's policy, provided a sufficient number of policyholders assent at once to this arrangement, so as to avoid selection against the office.

"Under participating policies issued since 1898 with fifteen or twenty year distribution periods, the North British and Mercantle insurance company will provide assurance of the same amount as at present and for the same premium, with immediate participation in profits under the following tables:

"Ordinary whole, premiums during life.

"Ordinary whole life premiums limited to 20 payments (if five or more still to pay).

"Endowment assurances for ten, fifteen, twenty-five and thirty years.

"In other classes, and under all ten-year distribution policies, in order to give the full face value from the commencement, it will be necessary to defer participation in profits for an equivalent period, unless the policyholder prefers to pay a slightly increased premium carrying immediate participation.

"Regarding any policies not embraced in the above, or those which have no surrender value, a fair and liberal proposal will be made."

As no medical examination will be required, it will be seen that the offer is open to all British policyholders to exchange their Mutual policies, free of any sacrifice, for a policy in the North British and Mercantile insurance company. In this connection I think it only right to say that I have been offered and, after most careful consideration, have accepted, the appointment of joint manager (life department) in London of the

North British and Mercantile insurance company. My address on and after Monday, therefore, will be at their London offices, 61 Threadneedle street, E. C., and I shall be glad to place my services at your disposal and give you any information that lies in my power. Or, if you will kindly fill up the enclosed form and return it to me, you will be supplied with full information by the North British and Mercantile. Finally, I desire to mention that I have never had any commission interest in the business I secured for the Mutual, and my remuneration with the North British and Mercantile is also by salary only.

D. C. HALDEMAN.

MANAGER HOGGE ISSUES A WARNING.

The following communication from Mr. J. H. Harrison Hogge, the new British manager of the Mutual Life, was sent to the editors of the London newspapers immediately after the publication of Mr. Haldeman's proclamation:

THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK,
16, 17 and 18 CORNHILL, LONDON, E. C., May 14, 1906.

DEAR SIR—An extraordinary circular has this morning been received by the policyholders in the Mutual Life insurance company of New York, and copies of it, or extracts from it, appear in today's papers. The object of the communication is to induce policyholders in the Mutual Life to transfer their interest to another company. On the origin of this proposal and on the points of business ethics involved in it, there is no need at this moment to say anything.

For the present I merely wish to warn policyholders in the Mutual Life against the folly of allowing themselves to be carried away by the specious offer which has been submitted to them. I would ask them with all the emphasis at my command, and in their own interests, to do nothing in a panic, to view their position calmly and deliberately and from all sides, and to wait for the company's statement (which will shortly be presented to them) before rashly embracing the financial risks and sacrifices to which they have been invited.

I make this appeal (which is especially addressed to the small policyholder) in the full confidence that no business man will hesitate a moment between the stability and proved advantages of this company and the fallacious proposals embodied in the circular in question; and I would particularly ask all the policyholders who feel any doubt whatsoever on this point to communicate with me at once, either personally or by letter. They will then be able to judge for themselves and to estimate the exact position of affairs with a full knowledge of the facts.

Meanwhile, I desire to reiterate and emphasize the fact—which has been vouched for after a prolonged and detailed examination by the well known English chartered accountants, Messrs. Deloitte, Plender, Griffiths & Co.—that the entire solvency of the Mutual Life is beyond question and that there need not be in the mind of any policyholder a moment's doubt as to its ability to carry out all its obligations to the letter. I remain, yours faithfully,

J. H. HARRISON HOGGE,
General Manager for the United Kingdom.

General Manager Hogge also issued the following statement to the policyholders of the Mutual Life in the United Kingdom:

MAY 16, 1906.

DEAR SIR (OR MADAM)—At the present juncture I beg to address you in regard to your policy with this company. In respect to all the alarming statements issued broadcast, I most emphatically assert that you have no need whatever to question the solvency and stability of this company. All that has transpired has proved its absolute solidity in regard to its funds, and the auditors, who were appointed largely in the interests of the British policyholders and for their satisfaction (whose work of investigation is not yet completed, for the work is one of great magnitude), have furnished an interim report, copy of which is enclosed to you herewith.

The last annual statement shows that there is a contingent guarantee fund amounting to over £15,000,000 sterling.

Under the new management of the company severe economies have been exercised and large reductions have been effected, as shown by the following statement:

Comparison of the first quarter of 1906 with the first quarter of 1905.

	1906.			1905.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Premiums received	3,097,019	6	0	3,273,198	19	5
Payments to policyholders	1,972,984	16	1	1,753,100	16	5
Commissions	207,889	6	5	447,097	10	8
Other expenses	394,893	8	7	473,401	16	11

All this must result to the benefit of the policyholders, and nothing is being left undone to thoroughly re-establish the company in the esteem in which it has been formerly held.

Nothing could be more detrimental to your own personal interest than to lightly forego your connection with the company, and all propositions to drop or transfer your policy should be closely scrutinized by you before being accepted.

Mr. Emory McClintock, F. I. A., vice president and actuary of the company, is expected to arrive here shortly, and after conference with him I shall be in a position to give you further details.

In the meantime I enclose you some comments on the annual statement for 1905, and assure you that I have every confidence in the future of the company, as a large policyholder, and my advice is at your disposal at all times.

I remain, yours faithfully, J. H. HARRISON HOGGE,
General Manager for the United Kingdom.

COMMENTS OF THE ECONOMIST ON THE SITUATION.

The *Economist*, of London, the principal organ of the financial interests in London, has an editorial article on the Haldeman scheme in which, after stating its terms, the editor says:

Upon so bold and unusual a proposal several comments suggest themselves. As to Mr. Haldeman's own part in it a good deal might be said—but it is not our business to enter upon any personal question, except to point out one broad feature of the situation in this aspect. In the curious and rather hysterical methods to which some modern journalism lends itself when a new sensation offers, it seems probable that some notion may spring up that Mr. Haldeman is a kind of legendary hero, sacrificing himself for the good of his former policyholders, and leading them into the promised land. It is hardly necessary to point out, what he would doubtless be the first to admit, that he is a business man, and not a philanthropist. There is no need for any policyholder to forego or bemuse his own judgment because of sentimental ideas about Mr. Haldeman. What each one has to do is to survey the situation coolly and impartially, in his own interest, and to be in no undue haste to act until he is sure, on the merits of the case, that he is well advised to do so. The few considerations we have to urge are put forward in the hope that they may assist toward a decision being sanely and soberly arrived at.

A life assurance company taking over the policy of another one at the existing premium can only do so without loss if it acquires at the same time the reserve which its valuation basis requires it to hold against the policy. That, and the future premiums are actuarially equivalent to the liabilties incurred. Will the surrender values of the Mutual policies furnish those reserves? The question cannot easily be answered offhand, but, prima facie, such a result is hardly probable, because the full reserve value is very rarely paid, on surrender, by any company. Moreover, the specimen cash values given in the "Mutual" prospectus are, in cases we have tested, distinctly less than the reserves which, on the "North British" valuation basis, the policies, at the durations specified, require. Against this it has to be borne in mind that the new benefits offered are not precisely the same as the old ones. Mention is made in the circular above quoted of 15 and 20 year distribution periods. This refers to the favorite American plan of making policies wait for those periods before they get any bonus—after which they receive a proportionately larger one on the "tontine" principle. The "North British" offers such policies immediate participation, on the usual English plan; but does it not follow that the "tontine" increase of bonus, earned during the years for which the policy has been in force, will be lost? In the absence of fuller particulars we have neither the right nor the desire to dogmatize on the point—but it is one to be investigated.

In any case we seem to be confronted with this alternative—either the surrender value of the existing policy and the future premiums payable thereunder are adequate to provide the contract benefits or they are not. If they are, then the policyholder occupies a position which permits, should he make up his mind to transfer at all, of his looking round in comfort and at his leisure among the British companies for the one which can give him the best terms. He need be in no hurry, for he is worth his money to anyone. If, on the other hand, they are inadequate so to provide, the result must ultimately be felt by him, should he make the proposed change, in the shape of diminished profits; for it cannot be supposed that the "North British" would penalize its existing policyholders for the benefit of these new entrants. In common justice their fund must suffice to itself and face its own fortunes.

As against such a line of reasoning we are well aware of one powerful argument which may be adduced, that the lives are to be accepted without medical re-examination. That this should

attract the damaged lives we readily admit; but that very fact may well give pause to the healthy policyholder before he decides in favor of the proposition. However safeguarded, it seems to us that "selection against the office" must, more or less, exist when any such offer is made. Any man who feels fairly confident about the prospect of seeing the doctor again would surely do well to face that not very formidable ordeal, experimentally anyhow, before he accepts terms which dispense with it, if they seem to him otherwise to involve the possibility of loss.

There is, moreover, something to be said for another course, not yet considered—the making no transfer at all. One need not be a blind admirer of American methods, and may repudiate utterly the financial irregularities recently exposed, while yet seeing plainly enough that a company like the "Mutual" must have great reserves of strength, and that the reduction of expenditure and purification of method which will now be forced upon it by public opinion cannot but, so far as they go, be beneficial. Such considerations, while not strong enough to attract new entrants, may at least deter policyholders of long standing from severance without due deliberation on the exact financial results involved.

That such deliberation is advisable, and that precipitancy is to be deprecated, are points we desire to emphasize. To condemn any sound project or discourage enterprise is furthest from our desire, but the complexity of the position and the importance of the issues involved seem in this case to call imperatively for caution and a careful study of the problem in all its aspects.

VICE PRESSIDENT M'CLINTOCK TAKES A HAND.

London, May 29.—The arrival in London of Emory McClintock, vice president of the Mutual insurance company of New York, has renewed interest in the fight for the business of the Mutual Life. He has not decided on his plans and is spending his time with the agents of the company going over their books. Mr. McClintock says he probably will seek an opportunity to give evidence before the House of Lords Committee on Insurance.

He considers that it would be absurd to ask the Mutual Life to put up $25,000,000 reserve in England, and cannot see how Great Britain could require American officers to keep reserves in Great Britain and refuse a similar regulation in the case of Canadian companies.

It is learned that the report published in London and cabled to New York that the Duchess of Marlborough had transferred her policy to the North British and Mercantile insurance company is untrue, and it is also not true that the policies of Lord Wharncliffe and those held by W. M. Rutherford, M. P., for friends have been transferred.

London, May 30.—The legal representatives of the Mutual Life insurance company of New York applied to the judge of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice today for leave to serve a short notice on the North British and Mercantile insurance company and D. C. Haldeman of a motion to restrain them from using the lists compiled by the Mutual in canvassing policyholders. Justice Sir Charles Swinfen Eady said the matter had been one of common knowledge for some time. He thought that it was not a matter of urgency, and that the notice could be served in the usual way. In regard to the application, Mr. Haldeman said that it was absolutely untrue that he or the North British Company had a list of the Mutual's policyholders.

London, May 31.—Emory McClintock, vice president of the Mutual Life insurance company of New York, said today that the pendulum of public opinion had now swung back in favor of the Mutual. So far as he knew, not a single important policy had been transferred, but he admitted that it was impossible to obtain accurate information with regard to that for some time to come.

"We did know," he said, "of many prominent policyholders who, it has been reported, intended to secede from the Mutual, including the Duchess of Marlborough and W. M. Rutherford, M. P., but they had decided to remain with this company. The Duchess of Marlborough wished her intention to remain to be made known."

The application for an injunction against D. C. Haldeman in the High Court of Justice would, Mr. McClintock said, probably be heard on June 11. It was the beginning of a big campaign on the part of the Mutual to retain its English business. Whether it was preliminary to a suit for damages Mr. McClintock could not say. He added:

"It will depend upon whether we find we have been damaged. Up to date there is no reason to believe that we have been."

Political Contributions Were Not Criminal—Opinion of the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court.

The Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court rendered a sweeping opinion on May 25, that the act of Vice President George W. Perkins, of the New York Life, in contributing funds to a political campaign fund for the company, did not constitute larceny, and his discharge was ordered.

The decision of the five Appellate judges was unanimous. Each wrote an opinion taking practically the same view. The following was that of Mr. Justice Ingraham:

Such facts certainly do not establish larceny as defined by the common law. The defendant had a right to give of his own funds to the chairman of the Republican National Committee. There was no statute prohibiting such contribution, and such act was not in and of itself a crime. The relator made the contribution at the request of the president of the insurance company, with the express understanding that it would repay him. Having made the contribution, relying upon this understanding, he then had a claim against the insurance company for the amount advanced, and it is entirely immaterial, as far as the question here presented is concerned, whether or not such claim could have been enforced in a civil action. The claim existed, and if in satisfaction of it the defendant received from the insurance company the amount called for in good faith, such reception and thereafter retention did not constitute larceny. Of this there can be no doubt, because the statute provides that upon an indictment for larceny (and the sufficiency of the depositions must be tested in the same way that the sufficiency of an indictment would be) it is a sufficient defense that the property was appropriated openly and avowedly under a claim of title preferred in good faith, even though the claim were untenable.

The money belonging to the insurance company was appropriated "openly and avowedly" by the relator, after all the facts had been stated to the finance committee, to reimburse him for the money which he had previously advanced. It was not stealthily taken, nor was there anything secretive about it. The fact that the check was drawn payable to the order of J. P. Morgan & Co., and so entered on the insurance company's books, is of no importance, because it does not appear that the relator had anything to do with the drawing of the check, or had any knowledge of the entry in the company's books. Besides, the check was concededly for the purpose of reimbursing the relator for moneys which he had previously advanced. The finance committee knew that the president was about to repay the relator for this advance, out of the funds of the insurance company by what is termed "executive order." There is not a single fact stated in the depositions from which a jury would have the right to find—and if they did it would be the duty of the court to set aside the finding—that the relator in receiving the money in satisfaction of the claim feloniously intended to deprive the insurance company of it; on the contrary, the only interference which can fairly and legitimately be drawn from such facts is that he believed he had a right to take it in satisfaction of his claim. The depositions are defective in that they do not show a felonious intent or any facts from which such intent can fairly be inferred.

NO FALSE PRETENSE.

Justice Ingraham declares further that Mr. Perkins did not obtain the money under any false pretenses, inasmuch as it was given to him voluntarily by the president of the company and received avowedly to reimburse him for a previous expenditure in the company's behalf. The only remaining inquiry regarding Mr. Perkins' part of the transaction, says Justice Ingraham, is whether Mr. Perkins received the money in trust and converted it to his own use. He continues:

To this question it seems to me that there can be but one answer: It was not received in trust; on the contrary, it was received to satisfy the relator's claim. But it is urged by the people that the relator was vice president of the insurance company; was chairman of the finance committee, and as such was charged in law with the custody of the company's property, for which reason it was his duty when the same was received to turn it over to the treasurer or the proper custodian of the fund. It undoubtedly was the relator's duty to see to it, so far as he could, that the company's property was preserved and used solely

(*Continued on page 429.*)

Life Insurance Payments.

The following is the report of the life insurance companies doing business in the United States to THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER of the death claims and endowments paid by them during the month of April, 1906:

COMPANIES.	Death Claims.	Endowments.	Total Payments.
Ætna Life	$249,522	$215,435	$464,957
American Central, Ind	8,762	13,225	21,987
Baltimore Life	11,579	13,437	25,016
Boston Mutual	4,469	.....	4,469
Central Life	1,500	.....	1,500
Citizens Life	5,000	.....	5,000
Colonial Life	17,895	.....	17,895
Columbian Life	.....	.....	.....
*Columbian National Life	.....	.....	.....
Connecticut General Life	14,450	6,150	20,600
Connecticut Mutual Life	361,409	14,655	346,064
Des Moines Life	15,788	.....	15,788
Equitable Life, Des Moines	15,738	588	16,326
Equitable Life, New York	1,400,390	234,734	1,635,124
Federal Life	8,000	.....	8,000
Fidelity Mutual	97,285	.....	97,285
Franklin Life	27,505	.....	27,505
Germania Life	79,395	18,193	97,588
†† Hartford Life	.....	.....	143,528
Home Life	94,484	34,629	129,113
Inter-State Life	500	.....	500
* John Hancock Mutual Life	366,952	13,104	380,056
Manhattan Life	74,986	4,323	79,309
Maryland Life	10,000	2,500	12,500
Massachusetts Mutual Life	86,637	26,641	113,278
Meridian Life and Trust	.....	.....	.....
*Metropolitan Life	1,390,536	8,200	1,398,736
Michigan Mutual Life	45,876	32,070	77,946
Minnesota Mutual Life	25,548	.....	25,548
Mutual Benefit Life	532,413	100,670	633,083
Mutual Life	1,728,636	471,408	2,200,044
Mutual Reserve Life	148,618	.....	148,618
National Life U S. A	32,259	.....	32,259
National Life, Montpelier	81,685	34,250	115,935
Nederlands (U. S. Branch)	12,160	.....	12,160
New England Mutual Life	169,508	40,284	209,792
New York Life	1,585,207	533,992	2,119,199
Northwestern Mutual Life	646,997	173,227	820,224
Penn Mutual Life	242,961	136,914	379,875
Phœnix Mutual Life	112,196	27,773	139,969
Provident Savings Life, New York	134,583	.....	134,583
Provident Life and Trust	184,277	140,577	324,854
† Prudential	1,054,516	2,993	1,057,509
Reliance Life	.....	.....	.....
Security Mutual Life	105,467	44,576	150,043
Security Trust and Life	30,882	3,327	34,209
State Life	33,435	.....	33,435
State Mutual Life	105,467	44,576	150,043
Travelers	139,438	59,955	199,393
Union Central Life	110,647	51,983	162,630
Union Mutual Life	78,320	6,879	85,199
United States Life	67,719	8,000	75,719
Washington Life	87,380	44,586	131,966
Canada Life	99,643	37,234	136,877
Sun Life of Canada	.....	.....	.....
Totals	$11,938,620	$2,601,088	$14,683,246

* Partially industrial insurance. † Report includes both industrial and ordinary insurance. †† Report includes death claims and endowments.

Payments Since Organization.

The following table shows the total amount reported paid on death claims and endowments, from their organization to April 30, 1906, inclusive, by the life insurance companies whose monthly reports are printed in THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER:

Date of Organization.	COMPANIES.	Death Claims.	Endowments.	Total Payments.
1850	Ætna Life	$66,661,449	$31,955,310	$98,616,759
1899	American Central, Ind	208,463	27,419	235,882
1898	Baltimore Life	3,011,000	112,220	3,123,220
1899	Boston Mutual Life	526,308	.....	526,308
1896	Central Life	92,658	9,000	101,658
1904	Citizens Life	29,000	.....	29,000
1898	† Colonial Life	483,959	.....	483,959
1903	Columbia Life	10,568	.....	10,568
1902	* Columbian National Life	282,471	.....	282,471
1865	Connecticut General Life	3,774,137	1,314,853	5,088,990
1846	Connecticut Mutual Life	129,353,842	16,803,703	146,157,545
1865	Des Moines Life	1,956,278	.....	1,956,278
1869	Equitable Life, Des Moines	1,406,434	306,741	1,713,175
1857	Equitable Life, New York	274,431,915	35,143,346	309,575,261
1900	Federal Life	136,296	.....	136,296
1879	Fidelity Mutual	12,664,271	.....	12,664,271
1884	Franklin Life	2,247,988	.....	2,247,988
1860	Germania Life	31,152,015	12,397,681	43,549,696
1867	†† Hartford Life	.....	.....	29,586,107
1860	Home Life	15,563,237	4,110,169	19,673,406
1897	Inter-State Life	189,011	.....	189,011
1862	* John Hancock Mutual Life	40,450,569	2,247,385	42,697,954
1850	Manhattan Life	34,670,731	5,855,308	40,526,039
1864	Maryland Life	3,057,586	265,312	3,322,898
1851	Massachusetts Mutual Life	30,291,046	4,948,819	35,239,865
1898	Meridian Life and Trust	55,859	.....	55,859
1867	* Metropolitan Life	156,036,778	936,540	156,973,318
1867	Michigan Mutual Life	6,986,860	3,424,835	10,411,695
1901	Minnesota Mutual Life	3,982,818	.....	3,982,818
1845	Mutual Benefit Life	116,263,075	14,408,621	103,671,696
1843	Mutual Life, New York	338,978,349	74,322,497	413,300,846
1881	Mutual Reserve Life	60,541,772	.....	60,541,772
1868	National Life U. S. A	7,944,195	354,989	8,299,184
1850	National Life, Montpelier	15,772,564	2,915,453	18,688,017
1893	Nederlands' Life (U. S. Branch)	1,511,577	1,000	1,512,577
1844	New England Mutual Life	49,123,267	9,705,706	58,828,973
1845	New York Life	245,083,860	55,594,678	300,678,538
1857	Northwestern Mutual Life	89,046,482	22,322,858	111,369,340
1868	Pacific Mutual Life	6,564,152	1,298,521	7,862,673
1847	Penn Mutual Life	43,360,085	9,196,657	52,556,742
1851	Phœnix Mutual Life	26,884,988	5,132,356	32,017,344
1865	Provident Life and Trust	22,688,657	15,934,320	38,622,977
1878	Provident Savings Life, New York	21,148,887	21,955	21,170,842
1876	† Prudential	99,420,645	284,555	99,705,200
1903	Reliance Life	52,798	.....	52,798
1887	Security Mutual Life	3,669,355	.....	3,669,355
1895	Security Trust and Life	2,797,914	8,478	2,806,392
1894	State Life	1,767,304	.....	1,767,304
1845	State Mutual Life	14,580,620	3,236,661	17,817,281
1871	Travelers	19,461,254	4,745,779	24,207,034
1866	Union Central Life	15,961,728	4,280,043	20,241,772
1867	Union Mutual Life	19,204,859	6,131,848	25,336,707
1849	United States Life	17,664,867	2,487,584	20,152,721
1850	Washington Life	22,246,469	9,588,485	31,804,955
1850	Canada Life	19,049,883	2,574,528	21,624,411
1847	Sun Life of Canada	.....	.....	.....
	Totals	$2,100,503,153	$364,406,213	$2,494,495,473

* Partially industrial insurance. † Report includes both industrial and ordinary insurance. †† Report includes death claims and endowments.

(*Continued from page* 428.)

for corporate purposes, but this did not prevent him from receiving money from the corporation in satisfaction of a just claim, nor did it make him guilty of larceny if he received money from the corporation in satisfaction of an illegal claim if he believed he had a right to receive it. It may be that the payment to the defendant was an ultra vires act, for which reason an action could be maintained by the corporation to reclaim or recover such money, but if this be assumed, it does not show the defendant was guilty of larceny in receiving it, inasmuch as there are no facts stated from which, as we have already seen, a jury would be justified in finding a felonious intent, which is absolutely necessary before one can be found guilty of the crime of larceny.

In concluding that part of the opinion having to do with Mr. Perkins' individual connection with the matter, Justice Ingraham lays down this proposition:

To say that the defendant's intent is a question for the jury is simply begging the question. As a general proposition the intent of a person committing an alleged criminal act is for the jury, but if in connection with the act which is alleged to be criminal there are other facts and circumstances which negative the existence of a criminal intent, or are consistent with innocence, then a conviction cannot be had, and it is the duty of the court to so hold as a matter of law, whether the question be presented as here, or on demurrer to an indictment, or on motion to discharge the defendant at the close of the people's case.

SUCH GIFTS NOT ILLEGAL.

Elsewhere in his opinion Justice Ingraham gives his view on the nature of such a campaign contribution as that by the New York Life in 1904. He says:

The act of the president of this corporation in making a contribution to one of the political parties of the United States to aid in the election of its candidate for President is the act which it is claimed was the misappropriation of this money of the corporation, which was the foundation of this charge. In considering the nature of this act it must be borne in mind that

(*Continued on page* 431.)

Fire Insurance Business in Arizona in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$627,687	$19,656	$4,036
Agricultural, Watertown	96,300	2,369	17
Allianec, London	245,446	6,834	2,704
American, Boston	35,550	594	.....
American Fire, Philadelphia	249,735	6,569	1,710
Atlas, London	602,665	14,652	4,581
British-America, Toronto	83,250	1,757	179
Caledonian, Edinburgh	234,026	6,142	401
California Fire, San Francisco	9,650	248	.....
Citizens, St. Louis	215,821	7,645	1,064
Commercial Union, London	426,882	10,432	363
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	382,456	10,588	3,708
Delaware, Philadelphia	33,500	795	21
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	18,750	415	.....
Fire Association, Philadelphia	178,107	3,741	1,076
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	1,786,526	49,429	11,750
German Alliance, New York	128,595	2,784	7
German-American, New York	436,598	8,618	2,449
Germania Fire, New York	85,350	2,848	100
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	22,000	448	.....
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	62,625	1,402	.....
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	36,000	1,041	.....
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	300,966	9,759	1,919
Hartford Fire, Hartford	1,150,011	30,546	6,365
Home, New York	1,635,092	24,834	7,670
Home F. and M., San Francisco	545,534	15,969	677
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	7,041	242	.....
Insurance Company of N. America	331,154	8,946	901
Law Union and Crown, London	185,993	4,672	2,514
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liv'p'l	1,092,612	25,315	4,722
London and Lancashire Fire	247,652	5,126	8,570
London Assurance Corporation	323,531	7,739	459
Michigan F. and M., Detroit	133,463	3,524	28
Nassau Fire, New York	14,125	362	.....
National Fire, Hartford	783,600	22,458	9,216
New York Fire, New York	3,500	77	.....
New Zealand F. and M., Auckland	325,746	9,818	2,860
North British and Mercantile	300,250	5,885	1,935
North River, New York	43,350	840	.....
Norwich Union Fire, Norwich	311,986	9,176	475
Orient, Hartford	94,150	2,517	.....
Palatine, London	581,910	16,177	59
Pelican, New York	25,000	619	11
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	243,070	7,076	531
Phenix, Brooklyn	518,397	15,086	282
Phœnix, Hartford	233,920	5,773	228
Phœnix, London	.....	.....	.....
Queen, New York	393,159	10,288	637
Royal, Liverpool	672,495	17,977	3,570
Royal Exchange, London	13,000	241	.....
Scottish Union and National, Edinb'h	276,620	7,918	1,308
Security, New Haven	47,905	1,379	.....
Springfield Fire and Marine, Springf'd	716,802	19,754	4,159
Sun, London	556,384	16,916	1,741
Svea, Gothenburg	275,075	7,463	3,615
Toledo Fire and Marine, Toledo	5,000	115	.....
Traders, Chicago	115,675	3,311	3,061
Transatlantic, Hamburg	47,600	1,621	57
Union, London	225,682	5,659	1,515
Western, Toronto	264,512	4,645	1,739
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	2,833	97	.....
Totals, 1905	$19,042,314	$491,544	$107,921
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$17,897,482	$447,287	$219,457
1903	16,262,417	422,401	160,617
1902	14,400,588	351,877	155,667
1901	12,254,268	330,531	164,924
1900	11,328,513	272,150	587,177
1899	10,468,991	232,932	168,726
1898	7,186,839	173,168	254,390
1897	6,021,110	144,106	54,942
1896	4,907,448	120,360	63,275
1895	5,267,963	119,210	31,600
1894	4,229,188	103,415	84,341
1893	4,169,997	104,880	58,624
1892	4,774,400	106,213	57,620
1891	2,494,958	61,825	11,596
1880 to 1890	23,858,958	581,857	475,179

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 70.8. The percentage in 1905 was 22.0.

Fire Insurance Business in Alaska in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$28,150	$1,365	.....
Agricultural, Watertown	25,800	792	$211
American, Boston	24,750	408	306
American Fire, Philadelphia	114,025	3,552	875
Atlas, London	50,750	607	.....
British American, New York	98,650	2,681	2,057
Caledonian, Edinburgh	$39,065	$1,540	$684
California Fire, San Francisco	42,300	1,227	.....
Citizens, St. Louis	27,535	454	.....
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	16,500	961	.....
Delaware, Philadelphia	42,500	1,108	529
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	48,525	1,155	.....
Fire Association, Philadelphia	1,000	65	.....
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	111,737	4,301	1,276
German Alliance, New York	8,500	186	.....
German American, New York	5,333	2,025	.....
Girard F. and M., Philadelphia	46,675	1,196	360
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	53,875	1,269	360
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	11,000	287	.....
Hanover Fire, New York	2,500	62	.....
Hartford Fire, Hartford	321,935	8,018	3,999
Home F. and M., San Francisco	87,500	1,251	.....
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	7,167	308	.....
Insurance Company of N. America	50,050	1,553	.....
Law Union and Crown, London	105,067	3,213	322
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverpool	34,000	238	.....
London Assurance Corporation	96,757	2,836	1,055
Michigan F. and M., Detroit	7,500	108	211
Nassau Fire, New York	56,025	1,242	492
National Fire, Hartford	77,720	2,145	352
New Hampshire Fire	21,500	514	.....
New York Fire, New York	13,250	319	144
New Zealand F. and M., Auckland	57,950	1,447	.....
North British and Mercantile, London	15,100	373	.....
North River, New York	60,275	1,421	492
Norwich Union, Norwich	11,000	1,145	.....
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	45,325	1,446	.....
Phenix, Brooklyn	256,972	7,296	411
Phœnix, Hartford	25,691	1,211	305
Queen, New York	79,163	2,050	1,438
Royal, Liverpool	137,818	4,153	2,153
Royal Exchange, London	44,500	1,578	.....
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	.....	661	352
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	49,800	2,217	.....
Springfield Fire and Marine	43,950	1,947	.....
Sun, London	61,553	750	1,407
Svea, Gothenburg	158,010	4,488	989
Traders, Chicago	20,500	833	352
Transatlantic Fire, Hamburg	118,600	2,831	575
Union, London	122,866	3,914	499
Westchester Fire, New York	9,999	311	.....
Western, Toronto	44,260	1,886	141
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	23,201	694	.....
Totals, 1905	$3,063,274	$92,308	$22,488
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$3,916,978	$101,582	$13,009
1903	3,321,697	89,906	65,702
1902	6,540,006	153,685	15,732
1901	6,945,544	138,948	11,074
1900	4,068,065	94,140	2,769
1899	3,642,554	80,693	1,878
1898	2,403,174	63,631	2,496
1897	2,006,355	42,874	5,438
1896	1,846,507	35,741	208
1895	1,496,297	31,657	1,912
1894	1,020,905	21,623	5,584
1893	879,574	22,472	1,125
1892	1,424,179	24,329	10,946
1891	678,458	22,580	191
1890	917,992	26,212	3,198
1880 to 1889, inclusive	2,248,677	70,538	38,241

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 18.4. The percentage in 1905 was 24.4.

Fire Insurance Business in Georgia in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$15,433,815	$235,293	$86,767
Agricultural, Watertown	2,213,100	26,000	11,107
American, Boston	507,947	6,563	3,962
American, Newark	1,184,369	14,431	3,239
American Central, St. Louis	2,614,952	44,914	21,416
Atlanta Birmingham, Atlanta	2,405,255	39,160	21,521
Atlanta Home, Atlanta	2,995,144	54,231	24,283
Atlas, London	1,468,310	26,407	11,161
British America, Toronto	1,655,397	29,813	11,150
Caledonian, Edinburgh	848,325	14,901	679
Citizens, St. Louis	2,043,974	38,000	14,483
Commercial Union, London	6,404,094	101,339	56,614
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	1,142,500	20,108	7,976
Continental, New York	9,009,931	140,207	40,416
Eagle Fire, New York	740,696	9,661	13
Fire Association, Philadelphia	4,849,409	74,559	38,401
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	6,605,652	126,260	57,070
Georgia Home, Columbus	4,675,850	78,189	35,489
German, Freeport, Ill	2,033,281	29,482	22,029
German Alliance, New York	1,275,181	21,808	9,292
German American, New York	6,134,101	97,600	57,886
Germania Fire, New York	3,697,258	55,888	12,784
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	5,090,254	26,940	18,492

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	$1,572,060	$27,079	$8,069
Hanover Fire, New York	1,751,492	33,996	20,622
Hartford Fire, Hartford	18,676,016	263,304	118,957
Home, New York	20,058,499	201,611	84,389
Insurance Co. of North America	5,892,742	120,869	59,672
Liv. and Lon. and Globe, England	12,591,184	242,540	97,438
Liv and Lon. and Globe, N. Y	1,021,219	18,806	15,898
London and Lancashire	4,118,859	51,872	11,130
London Assurance Corporation	951,258	17,939	10,137
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	880,804	21,643	2,540
National Fire, Hartford	3,927,828	41,556	8,153
National Union, Philadelphia	1,584,150	21,312	2,295
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	2,415,306	31,608	9,813
New York Fire, New York	207,333	4,359	2,184
Niagara Fire, New York	1,433,643	21,253	16,211
North British & Mercantile, London	23,074,091	67,027	23,349
Northern, London	4,621,056	45,663	29,922
North River, New York	1,195,207	24,218	3,648
Norwich Union, Norwich	3,200,202	50,361	14,013
Orient, Hartford	2,172,507	26,290	9,381
Palatine, London	2,895,031	47,832	13,949
Pelican, New York	146,555	2,301	357
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	3,805,707	58,577	23,019
Phenix, Brooklyn	8,266,111	191,731	75,387
Phœnix, Hartford	5,454,566	68,047	26,947
Phœnix, London	1,028,815	21,202	18,023
Queen, New York	9,129,922	145,859	49,088
Rochester German, Rochester	933,587	17,091	15,647
Royal, Liverpool	6,214,945	90,372	49,431
St. Paul Fire and Marine	3,628,328	53,477	21,504
Scottish Union and National	3,111,859	35,915	13,677
Springfield Fire and Marine	4,880,208	42,056	13,643
Southern Mutual, Athens, Ga	30,508,472	306,934	48,509
Sun, London	1,853,093	37,651	16,836
Sun, New Orleans	2,027,468	37,058	13,805
Toledo Fire and Marine, Toledo	33,500	656	.....
Traders, Chicago	1,890,947	34,724	8,141
Union, London	1,365,713	10,109	1,261
Westchester Fire, New York	2,041,046	30,352	15,793
Western, Toronto	3,288,476	38,912	15,365
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	1,799,583	27,618	7,061
Totals, 1905	$289,209,843	$3,897,126	$1,550,373
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$243,836,954	$3,444,822	$1,591,388
1903	216,102,523	3,176,695	1,315,903
1902	208,512,957	3,169,734	1,400,793
1901	208,987,008	2,733,260	1,594,606
1900	198,561,986	2,534,674	1,634,356
1899	177,137,318	2,349,841	1,278,294
1898	157,983,654	2,136,639	1,436,387
1897	150,157,897	2,125,228	1,037,301
1896	146,150,040	2,033,956	1,297,416
1895	142,789,146	2,000,476	1,282,710
1894	138,769,873	1,905,826	897,775
1893	155,425,140	2,044,381	946,850
1892	156,282,615	2,035,894	1,319,812
1891	155,557,458	1,960,730	1,156,905
1880 to 1890	1,294,481,595	15,045,321	8,961,731

The percentage of losses paid to premiums in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 54.5. The percentage for 1905 was 39.8.

(*Continued from page 429.*)

such a contribution by a corporation was not prohibited by law.

It is claimed, however, that the payment of money was ultra vires of the corporation, and therefore beyond its legitimate or authorized power. We may assume the correctness of this claim, but the money that was disposed of being the money of the corporation, if the contribution had been made by an order of the corporation itself, or with the assent of those constituting the corporation, no officer of the corporation would have been liable for making the contribution.

There was no evidence before the magistrate that this corporation had not authorized the contribution. The only evidence on the subject was the deposition of the secretary of the corporation that "for many years the president of the corporation had exercised the power of ordering disbursements out of the company's funds upon his sole personal authority, and, as far as I am aware, his right to do this had never been challenged," and of the treasurer of the corporation, that "said McCall, by virtue of his office, had power to make disbursements known as disbursements upon executive order."

It cannot, I think, be disputed but that this act of making such a contribution to one of the political parties, not being prohibited by law, would have been perfectly lawful if made by an individual. No law and no declared public policy prohibits the making of contributions to political parties, except for certain specified purposes stated in Section 41N of the Penal Code.

It would seem, therefore, to follow that without some proof that the corporation itself did not authorize this transaction, or that the president had no authority to make such a contribution on behalf of the corporation, there was no evidence that a crime had been committed. When an unlawful and criminal intent is essential it is necessary to aver the unlawful and criminal intent which constitutes the crime.

NO EVIDENCE AGAINST M'CALL.

In considering some of the individual contentions of the district attorney, when actually arguing the case and not expressing his personal opinion, Justice Ingraham pauses over the one which alleged that if John A. McCall were committing the crime of larceny in his part of the operation, Mr. Perkins was similarly guilty. Justice Ingraham says of this:

It is claimed that as this money was in the possession, custody or control of McCall, as president of the company, and as McCall's intention was to make this political contribution, which was an appropriation of the property of the company for the use of a person other than the true owner, and as the relator aided and abetted in the appropriation of the money, he was a principal under Section 29 of the Penal Code. That section provides that "a person concerned in the commission of a crime, whether he directly commits the act constituting the offense, or aids and abets in its commission, is a principal."

But, as before stated, the evidence before the magistrate was not sufficient to prove that McCall had committed a crime. But assuming that McCall made this arrangement for the contribution without authority from the corporation, the evidence does not establish that the relator aided and abetted in the commission of the offense, if one was committed. He was not the moving party in making the contribution. His connection with it was in obeying a request of the president, so far as appears, in entire good faith and with no possibility of any personal advantage or benefit.

The opinion closes with this paragraph:

I think, therefore, that it does not appear from these depositions before the magistrate that a crime has been committed or that there was reasonable ground to believe that the defendant was guilty thereof, and the order appealed from should be reserved and the defendant discharged.

The four opinions of the four concurring justices are devoted to the discussion of particular points on which each is convinced that no crime has been committed, and that the part played by Mr. Perkins was such that, regardless of the character of Mr. McCall's act in making the contribution, Mr. Perkins could not be deemed to have entertained criminal intent.

Basis of Adjustment of San Francisco Losses Adopted by the Fire Insurance Companies.

At a meeting of representatives of American fire insurance companies, held in the city of New York on Thursday, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted as defining the purposes of the companies in adjusting their losses by the San Francisco conflagration:

Whereas, On the 18th of April, 1906, a great earthquake occurred in the city of San Francisco, Cal., which destroyed property to the value of millions of dollars, and was followed by a conflagration made unprecedented in extent and damage by conditions induced by and following said earthquake; and

Whereas, The problems arising in connection with the settlement of such losses are complex and intricate to an extent never before equaled in the history of underwriting by reason of the following and other factors, namely:

(*a*)—The difficulty of clearly segregating losses for which companies are liable from those from which they are exempt.

(*b*)—The existence of many varying forms of policy contracts.

(*c*)—The loss of essential records, both by insurance companies and by the assured; and

Whereas, It is highly desirable that all losses for which fire insurance companies are legally liable should be promptly settled with equity and fairness to all concerned; and

Whereas, It is expedient that a statement as to the legal and moral liability of companies in regard to claims arising from the catastrophe at San Francisco should be made, the subjoined is adopted as a fair statement of such liability, suitable to be used as the basis for adjusting losses:

First.—Where policies covered buildings (and/or their contents) which had certainly fallen before the fire, or which had been so damaged as to void the insurance under the express

terms of the contract, claims under such policies should not be paid.

Second.—Where policies covered buildings (and/or their contents), which may have been damaged or destroyed by the authorities, civil and or military, subsequent to the conflagration, claims under such policies should not be paid until the facts have been definitely ascertained.

Third.—*a.* Where policies covered buildings (and/or their contents), which were probably, but not certainly, so damaged by earthquake as to be brought within the provisions of the fallen building clause; or

b. Where policies covered buildings (and/or their contents), which had suffered from shock or earthquake, but not to such an extent as to bring them within the provisions of the fallen building clause; or

c. Where policies covered buildings (and/or their contents), which had been damaged or destroyed by the authorities, civil and or military, before fire had reached them; or

d. Where policies covered property whose owners, by reason of the destruction of their books and records, are unable to supply the proofs of value required by the conditions of their insurance policies. In all such cases claims should be settled by a reasonable compromise.

Fourth.—Where policies covered contents of buildings which are certainly not affected by the exemption conditions of the policy, claims under such policies should be paid as soon as adjusted, subject to such deductions, if any, as may fairly be made on account of the salvage resulting from the removal of portable property from buildings before fire had reached them.

Nearly all the principal American companies interested in the San Francisco losses were represented at the meeting, but during the discussion over their proposed action in making settlements, President Evans, of the Continental, withdrew from the meeting, stating later that he would not be bound by the resolutions which were adopted. The resolutions were cabled to London for the information of the British companies.

NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Of the U. S. of A.

Home Office
NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ALBERT M. JOHNSON, President
ROBERT E. SACKETT, Vice-President
ROBERT D. LAY, Secretary
CHAS. B. SHEDD, Treasurer

Admitted assets, $6,092,500.46
Ins. in force - 43,336,600.78
Full paid capital, 1,000,000.00

Policy Contracts Liberal and Up to Date.

Exceptional Inducements offered to wideawake Agents.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencie
WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

Connecticut General Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

R. W. HUNTINGTON, Jr., . *President.*
GEORGE E. BULKLEY, . *Secretary and Actuary.*
E. B. PECK, . . . *Assistant Secretary.*
W. W. KNIGHT, M. D., . *Medical Adviser.*

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

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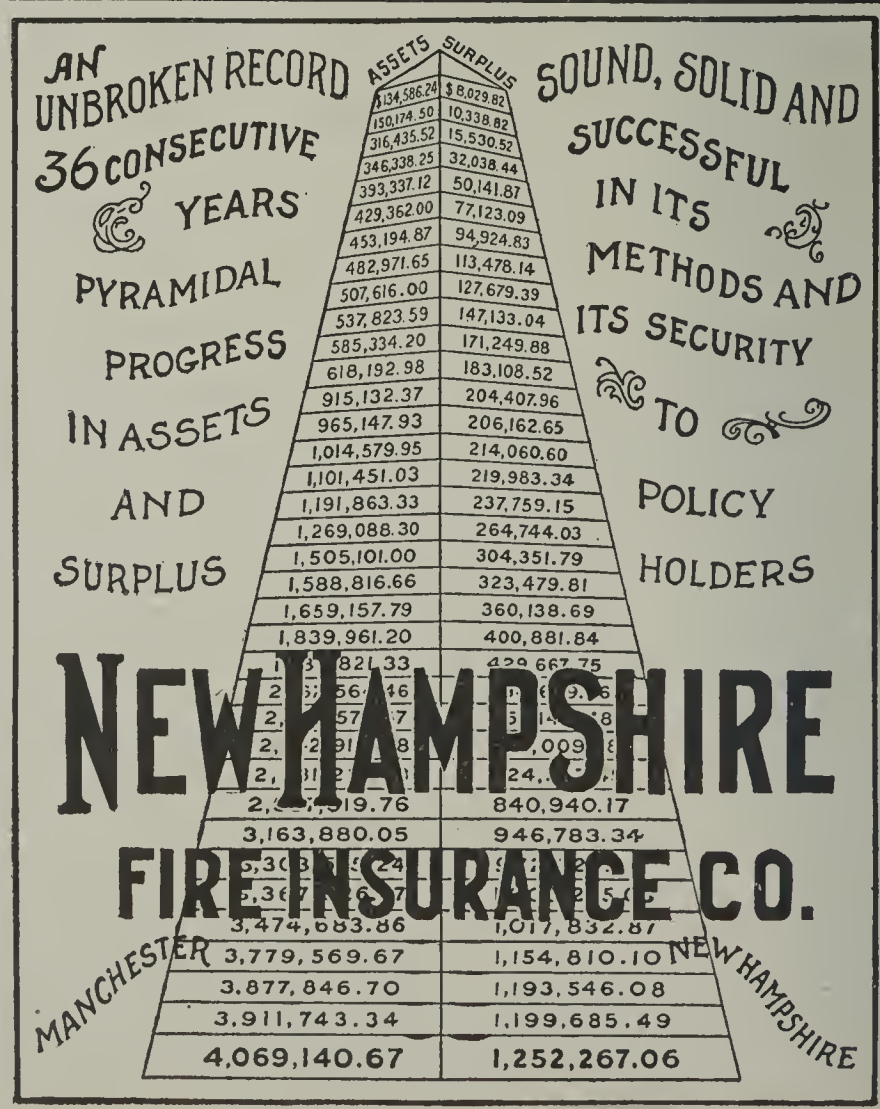
HOME OFFICE



THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE
Insurance Company.
1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization
A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.

1825. THE 1906.
Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

Insurance Co. of North America,
232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906		$13,015,852
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,389,121	
Capital Stock	3,000,000	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,731	$13,015,852

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.
LIMITED,
OF LONDON.
OFFICE:
Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

INCORPORATED 1799.
Providence Washington Insurance Company,
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

THE
John Hancock
MUTUAL
Life Insurance Company of Boston, Mass.

Insurance in Force, December 31, 1905, Over $395,000,000

STEPHEN H. RHODES, President.

ROLAND O. LAMB, Vice-Pres.; ARNOLD A. RAND, 2d Vice-Pres.; ROBERT K. EATON, Sup't of Agencies; WALTON L. CROCKER, Secretary; WM. S. SMITH, Actuary; GEORGE L. STIMMEL, General Agent Metropolitan District.

St. Paul Building, New York.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1906
OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance.

The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy.

Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

Liverpool & London & Globe Ins. Co.,

ESTABLISHED, 1836. ENTERED THE UNITED STATES, 1848.

NEW YORK OFFICE:
WILLIAM & PINE STREETS.

NEW ENGLAND, NEW YORK, PENNSYLVANIA, OHIO, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, TENNESSEE, ARKANSAS, MARYLAND, DELAWARE, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

H. W. EATON, Resident Manager.
GEO. W. HOYT, Deputy Manager.
JOHN J. MARTIN, Agency Superintendent.

CHICAGO OFFICE:
203—205 LA SALLE STREET

ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN, IOWA, WISCONSIN, MINNESOTA, MISSOURI, COLORADO, DAKOTA, KANSAS, NEBRASKA, MONTANA, UTAH, WYOMING AND NEW MEXICO. INDIAN AND OKLAHOMA TERRITORIES.

W. S. WARREN, Resident Secretary.
GEO. H. MOORE, J. V. THOMAS, } Assistant Secretaries.

NEW ORLEANS OFFICE:
Corner CARONDELET AND GRAVIER STREETS.

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CLARENCE F. LOW, Resident Secretary.
J. G. PEPPER, Assistant Secretary.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:
422 CALIFORNIA STREET.

CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, OREGON, WASHINGTON, IDAHO, ARIZONA

CHARLES D. HAVEN, Resident Manager.
C. MASON KINNE, Assistant Secretary.

(FIRE)
German American Insurance Company New York

CAPITAL
$1,500,000
NET SURPLUS
6,442,674
ASSETS
14,052,520

How's Your Backbone? Can You Stand Alone?

Agents who can answer "strong" and "yes" to the above questions, and who want to be advanced more than they want advances, can secure splendid contracts with liberal renewal commission guarantees from the

Security Trust and Life Insurance Co.

BROADWAY and 26th STREET, NEW YORK.

Mr. Thomas Bradley, President
Mr. Geo. B. Luper, 2d Vice-President and General Manager

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO., INCORPORATED 1833.

FIRE AND MARINE. Head Office: TORONTO, CANADA.

UNITED STATES BRANCH.

JANUARY 1, 1906

Assets	$1,542,949.10
Liabilities	1,046,546.17
Net Surplus	$496,402.93

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41 (Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.
Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,
OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

WANTED

MANAGERS

FOR

TWO CENTRAL WESTERN STATES

ALSO FOR

Idaho, Wyoming and Virginia

by one of the best and most favorably known, old line companies, a company in which the Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods.

Exclusive territory with very attractive renewal contracts will be given to first class men.

Address with references

WESTERN MANAGER

Care of WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William St., New York City

Applications will be considered strictly confidential.

Royal INSURANCE COMPANY (FIRE) OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

Agencies in all the principal cities, towns and villages in the United States.

GERMANIA

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

NEW YORK.

ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE

Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

Provident Life and Trust Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. **THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY** invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

The Empire State Surety Co.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK

391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*
WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, JR., . *President*
EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

The Union Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

CAPITAL, - - $200,000

STATEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1906.

Total Assets	$718,168
Total Liabilities	366,834
Surplus to Policyholders	351,334

WILLIAM MUIR, President.
E. R. DANNELS, Secretary.
M. JOS. NOWLAN, Assistant Secretary.

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$50,019,667.03
Liabilities	41,289,151.01
Gross Surplus	8,730,516.02

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.

Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.

United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

TO THE POLICY-HOLDERS OF THE

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I submit a Balance Sheet of this Company, as of December 31, 1905, prepared after a full audit of our books and accounts, and certified to by Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co. and Haskins & Sells, Chartered and Certified Public Accountants.

We publish this for your information, and in order that you may know on impartial, critical and expert authority exactly what the condition of the Company is.

The Board wishes me especially to call attention to these facts:

FIRST.—That the assets have been verified and are certified to be worth $438,788,015.39. This exceeds the value claimed by the Company in its annual statement, issued as of the same date.

SECOND.—That the surplus for dividends and contingencies exceeds the same item in the Company's annual statement, issued as of the same date.

THIRD.—That the Company's management is sound, and that its books and records are well and accurately kept.

This balance sheet cannot be qualified or modified in any respect. It contains the information you have been waiting for. The Board of Trustees presents it as evidence of the general efficiency and integrity with which your interests have been managed.

ALEXANDER E. ORR, President.

New York, June 1, 1906.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants,
(54 William St., New York.)

OFFICES OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

New York Life Building
346 BROADWAY

HASKINS & SELLS,
Certified Public Accountants.
(30 Broad St., New York.)

In re NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

New York, May 15, 1906.

THOMAS P. FOWLER, Esq.,
Chairman Special Committee of the Board of Trustees of
The New York Life Insurance Company, New York City.

We have audited the books and accounts of the New York Life Insurance Company, both at its Home Office and its principal Domestic and Foreign Branches, for the year ending December 31, 1905, and have prepared therefrom the following Balance Sheet and Insurance Account.

We have verified all the Assets of the Company, and, after providing sufficient Reserves for possible losses, find that on December 31, 1905, the total Assets amounted to $438,788,015.39, and are fully worth that sum.

We have tested the clerical accuracy of the Insurance Reserve as certified by the Actuary of the Company, which amounts to $379,151,063.70, and exceeds that required by the Insurance Department of the State of New York by the sum of $7,201,720; and having made a provision of $5,589,755 for all other liabilities, we find that there was on December 31, 1905, a balance of $54,047,176.29 available for Dividends on Participating Policies (including Deferred Dividend Policies at the end of their several accumulation periods), and for Contingencies. This balance exceeds that claimed by the Company in its Annual Report for 1905.

The general administration of the Company is well organized, its management is sound, its business methods and system of collecting premiums are effective and economical, and its books and records are well and accurately kept.

And WE HEREBY CERTIFY that the following Balance Sheet correctly sets forth the true financial condition of the Company at December 31, 1905, and that the accompanying Insurance Account for the period described therein is correct.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.
By A. Lowes Dickinson, F. C. A., F. I. A., C. P. A. (Ill.)

HASKINS & SELLS,
Certified Public Accountants.
By Elijah W. Sells, C. P. A.

Assets

REAL ESTATE—			
Office Buildings:			
Home Office and Annex.	$6,191,863.00		
Domestic Buildings....	3,337,500.00		
Foreign Buildings.....	2,400,181.00	$11,929,544.00	
Other Real Estate.....		1,907,332.00	$13,836,876.00
SECURED LOANS—			
On Mortgages.....		$25,736,644.21	
On Company's Policies.....		45,653,301.89	
On Premium Notes.....		3,723,872.20	
On Other Collateral.....		3,250,000.00	78,363,818.30
BONDS—			
Government, State, County and Municipal in the United States and Canada		$34,504,799.99	
Railroad and Other Companies in the United States and Canada.....		237,527,887.00	
Foreign Government Bonds held chiefly to comply with Statutory requirements		32,422,935.78	
Foreign Railroad Bonds held chiefly to comply with Statutory requirements		8,837,277.52	
Miscellaneous Bonds.....		10,551,250.00	323,844,150.29
CASH—			
In Banks and Trust Companies:			
Home Office, subject to check—			
Domestic	$9,789,269.44		
Foreign	893,430.38	$10,682,699.82	
Branch Office, subject to check—			
Domestic	$727,649.79		
Foreign	1,534,925.81	2,262,575.60	
On deposit on special terms—			
Domestic	$3,000.00		
Foreign	957,049.12	960,049.12	
Obligatory Deposits with Foreign Governments		188,500.00	
In Transit.....		726,399.84	
On hand at Home Office and Branches:			
Home Office.....	$42,847.78		
Domestic	90,900.25		
Foreign	169,727.62	303,475.65	15,123,700.03
RENEWAL PREMIUMS In course of collection or collected and not reported			3,581,237.00
AGENTS' BALANCES and Miscellaneous Advances:			
Agents' Advances.....	$1,798,652.61		
Less—Reserves	798,652.61	$1,000,000.00	
Sundry Agency Balances.....		58,075.62	
Miscellaneous Deposits.....		7,871.57	
Reinsurance Losses and Claims.....		56,000.00	1,121,947.19
INTEREST AND RENTALS Due and Accrued and Taxes Paid In Advance:			
Interest:			
On Bonds	$2,465,349.35		
On Secured Loans.....	324,701.01		
Miscellaneous	34,824.04	$2,824,874.40	
Rentals		28,322.00	
Taxes paid in advance.....		63,090.18	2,916,286.58
			$438,788,015.39

Liabilities

INSURANCE RESERVE—			
Reserve required under the laws of the State of New York.....		$371,949,343.70	
Additional Reserve as computed by the Company.....		7,201,720.00	$379,151,063.70
CURRENT LIABILITIES—			
Under Policies and Policy Contracts:			
Death Claims due and unpaid:			
Contested	$130,469.34		
In process of settlement	2,516,429.98		
		$2,646,899.32	
Matured Endowments		161,933.27	
Annuities due and unpaid		138,591.92	
Dividends due and unpaid		172,931.24	
Instalments due on Supplementary Contracts.....		744.82	
Surrender Values due and unpaid....		6,703.56	$3,127,804.13
Commission and Current Expenses:			
Commissions on Premiums in course of collection		$172,325.55	
Current Expenses.....		187,086.52	359,412.07
Premiums, Interest and Rents Prepaid and Sundry Deposits:			
Taxes Accrued.....		$3,645.27	
Interest paid in advance		1,006,527.74	
Premiums paid in advance		1,005,999.11	
Miscellaneous Deposits and Rents paid in advance		69,854.82	
Trustees of Nylic Club Funds		16,532.26	2,102,559.20
			5,589,775.40
RESERVE for distribution to participating policies (including Deferred Dividend Policies at the end of their several accumulation periods) and for Contingencies			54,047,176.29
			$438,788,015.39

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1906. No. 23.

Published every Saturday by the Underwriter Printing and Publishing Company.

Subscription price: Five Dollars per annum in advance.

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Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

THE safety fund provision of the New York insurance law, which has been adopted in three other States also, is discussed in the light of the San Francisco conflagration by Mr. S. H. Wolfe in the *Insurance Press*. The safety fund law was a child of the masterly brain of the late President George T. Hope, of the Continental, and was adopted by the Legislature of 1872, and strongly opposed at the time by several prominent fire underwriters on the ground that it took away from every policyholder of the company a part of that security to which he was entitled by the payment of his premium. The law, as is well known, "permits the accumulation by a fire insurance company from its net profits of a fund, one-half of which may be deposited with the Insurance Department, to be held for the protection of the unearned premiums of the company and to serve as a second capital in case its capital and assets are swept away by a great conflagration; the other half to be retained by the company for the payment of the conflagration and other current contemporaneous losses." In other words, the company availing itself of the safety fund provision of the law can never be destroyed by a San Francisco or Chicago fire and turned over to a receiver, because there remains in its possession a fund that cannot be touched by the great fire and will serve as a provision for the payment of other losses and the continuance of business. Mr. Wolfe regards the law with favor, and in this he is in accord with the view of most modern underwriters. Opposition to the law has so died out that the company whose former president was the chief objector to Mr. Hope's idea has since qualified under it. The automatic ease with which it saves a company from ruin when it encounters a disaster so overwhelming as that of last April will commend it hereafter to many more companies than those which now tranquilly operate under it.

THAT insurance human nature in Canada does not differ from that in the United States is revealed by the inquiry of the Royal Commission into the affairs of Dominion life insurance companies, and no doubt a similar likeness would be shown if life insurance practices in Great Britain and in Continental countries were investigated in the American and Canadian way. There have been irregularities in business management, the outgrowth of official unrestraint and government department weakness or complaisance. But the solvency of life insurance companies has been proved, and the value of life insurance as the protector of the family again emphasized. We notice in our Canadian insurance contemporaries and the marked copies of the daily papers of Toronto and Montreal which some obliging but unknown friends regularly mail to us, that our cousins over the border are going through pretty much the same kind of experience that attended the Armstrong investigation here. The Dominion counterpart of Inquisitor Hughes is quite as domineering and insistent with witnesses as he, the newspaper commentators are quite as hysterical and unreasonable, and the evidence of intentional wrongdoing by directors and officers quite as elusive. The parallel is further maintained in the legislative proceedings. In the House of Commons at Ottawa on May 29 Mr. Maclean announced that the investigation had disclosed that life insurance has lost its benevolent aspect and become a money making business. Thirty per cent. of receipts goes toward expenses. Government supervision is discredited, and the department must be overhauled. The speaker was dissatisfied with the progress made by the commission, and wanted a committee appointed by Parliament to take up the work. We notice in a vigorous defense of the Government and of the commission by the Finance Minister that he admitted that they were leaning on the assistance of our countryman, "the eminent actuary, Mr. Miles Dawson," to pull them through. The end of the investigation is not yet in sight; in fact, a querulous local critic claims that it will take two years to run its course. If it accomplishes nothing else of value it will at least keep our busy actuarial representative in a long lucrative job.

ONE Pifer, writing to the New York *Herald* this week, regrets that "each day shows up more rottenness in all the principal life insurance companies," and he claims that it demonstrates the necessity of the assumption of the business of insurance by the national Government." "Big salaries for officials, large commissions for agents must be eliminated from the business," says Mr. Pifer, and he adds "drumming by personal solicitation or advertisement is useless. People will insure their lives when the Goverment of the United States is behind the business, just as they deposit money in savings banks. [Number of depositors in American savings banks, by the way, 7,696,229; number of policyholders of American life companies and orders, 27,406,176.—ED.] If all of the useless expense is wiped out which now burdens the life insurance companies we will be able to carry double the amount of insurance for the same money." We quote this twaddle because it is representative of a state of mind that obtains among a number of people at present. Life insurance is unsafe because it is administered by private corporations controlled by stockholders or the policyholders themselves. Managed by a beneficent general Government, it will become both cheap and safe. Reformers of the Pifer school do not know, of course, that life insurance by the state has been tried in England through the Post Office Department and has failed. People do not seek life insurance voluntarily, and the British postal insurance system shows microscopic results. "Drumming by personal solicitation or advertisement" is

not useless; it is vital to the existence of the institution. The alternative is compulsory insurance. A Government system to be effective must possess the power to force all healthy persons to take insurance on their lives whether they are willing or not. Americans are not likely to consent to the laying of such a yoke upon themselves. Coercive Government insurance could be possible only through a constitutional amendment, which would not be adopted by one State. The Federal machine to execute all the affairs of humanity, personal as well as public, is the refuge of the modern underdone reformer. A national bakeshop is correlative with a national insurance manufactory.

Facts and Opinions.

Suit was begun this week on behalf of the **Mutual Life insurance company** against Robert A. Grannis and Walter R. Gillette, former vice presidents, for an accounting of their official disbursements when officers of the company. A sum of $10,000, which Dr. Gillette had been holding in the custody of his personal banker for the company, has been turned over to it. Mr. Untermyer published a complaint this week that the Mutual Life is squandering money in having the names of its policyholders copied to comply with the law. It is paying a copying company $8.50 per 1,000 names when he knows a man who would do the job for $3 per 1,000 names. He said: "The policyholders have only two months after the lists are filed in which to nominate their directors. It is a physical impossibility to do the work within that time without the aid of one of these organizations which make a business of this sort of work. If the statement which comes to me from reliable authority be true (and I have no reason to doubt it) these managements have exhausted every contrivance to prevent the policyholders from obtaining the lists." The chairman of the committee, of which Mr. Untermyer is counsel, sent a demand to President Peabody that lists by States and districts be furnished him as fast as prepared by the company. The president has declined to comply, stating that it will require all the time given by the legislative act—until July 15—to copy these lists, and that, "in view of the injury which many policyholders believe will be done to the Mutual by the publication of such lists, it must be a matter of very serious consideration by the board of trustees as to whether he may at any time grant any extension or enlargement of the facilities which the Legislature has deemed sufficient and best for the policyholders."

The **insurance situation at San Francisco** is complicated by the reinsurance question. A number of the reinsuring companies have served notice upon the companies whose liability they assumed that they will not regard themselves as held unless the loss settlements are in strict accordance with their wishes. This is having a noticeable effect upon the attitude of some of the larger companies, which otherwise would be inclined to make broader settlements. Insurance Commissioner Wolf, in commenting on the basis of adjustment adopted by the fire insurance companies in New York last week, regards their action as "not final." He is of the opinion that their agreement was put forward as a feeler to test public opinion. At the same time he stated that if the companies refuse to pay for fire losses caused by dynamiting or other methods of destruction adopted by the authorities they will not be sustained when the controversy gets into the courts. He emphatically insists that the companies are liable for these losses. "But if the companies," he said, "pursue a harsh, stiff course, you may depend on it the courts will be very busy. And if the companies refuse to pay losses caused by dynamite I am sure the courts will compel them to. Recourse to the courts, it is probable, will be the only way of settling some losses. There is a question whether outside companies doing business here are not subject to the stockholders' liability law, which makes individual stockholders liable for the debts of their corporations. That is another thing the courts must pass upon." The settlement of losses, however, is steadily going on in spite of the fulminations of the Insurance Commissioner and the hostility of the daily press. An act just passed by the California Legislature in special session will be found reported in our legislative news.

The new British general manager for the Mutual Life insurance company, Mr. **J. H. Harrison Hogge,** who is much in evidence at present, is an Englishman who has been connected with the British business of the company seventeen years. He was first an agent of the company at Southampton and afterward manager of the Southwestern district, which includes all the southern and western counties of England. Ten years ago he became manager of the metropolitan district of London. A writer in the *Policy*, a London insurance paper, contributes the following description of the successor of Mr. Haldeman, now of the North British and Mercantile insurance company:

Personally Mr. Hogge is a broad shouldered man of a little over average height—a typical, plain spoken Englishman in appearance and character. He is gifted with a great amount of common sense, and is able to explain insurance policies better almost than anyone I ever met. I remember once hearing him give a lecture to Mutual district managers and agents. He was explaining the benefits offered under the Mutual policies to an audience which comprised many expert insurance officials of much more experience in the business than himself. He literally amazed the audience by his able enunciation of the advantages and the uses to which insurance policies could be applied. The British policyholders of the Mutual, therefore, who require to know the character of the new general manager can be assured that their interests are being cared for by an Englishman of the best type, who in any and every circumstance makes a point of doing his duty and has no axe to grind. In private life Mr. Hogge is a charming companion, with a numerous circle of friends who hold him in the same esteem as he commands in business. He is colonel of the First Hants Artillery Volunteer Brigade, with whom he is immensely popular; honorary treasurer of the Surbiton Golf Club; an enthusiastic yachtsman; a motorist, with a 12 horse power Darracq, and altogether a thorough sportsman. And in ending, let me add that Mr. Hogge is, above all, an Englishman—and a "straight" Englishman.

In his report to the Insurance Commissioner of Maryland, the actuary of the department, Clayton C. Hall, holds that the legislation in New York and that proposed before Congress requiring an **annual distribution of surplus** by life insurance companies is **injudicious.** Actuary Hall says:

The business of life insurance is made possible by the prevalence of a certain regularity in the occurrence of deaths, or the rate of mortality. But this average death rate does not assert itself with precision annually, any more than does the downfall of rain, the range of temperature, or the yield of crops. In order to ascertain the average a longer period than one year is required. In England a period of five years for the ascertainment and apportionment of surplus was adopted nearly a century and a half ago, and has been followed ever since with satisfactory results. In my judgment the legislation in Maryland enacted at the session of the Legislature just ended, which provides for an accounting and apportionment of surplus at least once in every five years, is thoroughly sound, and far wiser than a requirement for annual distribution of surplus. It leaves companies which elect to do so free to make distributions more frequently, but imposes no unreasonable burden upon a business in which fluctuations, favorable and unfavorable, are inevitable. A little more than forty years ago some of the larger companies, mistaking the financial conditions which arose from the Civil War to be permanent in their character, adopted the plan of annual dividends. When the error was discovered, instead of frankly acknowledging that annual distribution of surplus was not appropriate to the business, and could not be maintained with any degree of regularity, recourse was had to the plan of deferred dividends as a means of concealing the fact. Therefore, many of the evils which it is now sought to correct are probably attributable to the injudicious attempt to make annual distribution of surplus. This was primarily prompted by rivalry for business and a misapprehension of conditions. If a regular annual

distribution of surplus from and after the first year of insurance were certainly possible, it would only prove that the premiums charged are unnecessarily high, and this the most careful students of life insurance and of finance do not believe to be the fact.

A British life insurance agent has written the following pertinent letter on the **Mutual Life situation in England** to the London *Morning Post:*

There is one point I would like to draw your attention to that seems to have been overlooked by the Mutual, viz., any consideration for the men, I mean the outdoor staff, canvassers, who have been responsible for the procuration of this £15,000,000. It is idle for Mr. D. C. Haldeman to claim friendship with the majority of the policyholders on the Mutual's books! Apart from a few isolated big cases I do not suppose he has seen 1 per cent. of the policyholders in Great Britain. Are the men that have been instrumental in placing this business going to sit idly by and see it swept away with one fell swoop without making some sort of an effort to stop it? Many of them have spent the best years of their lives building it up, and are receiving a certain percentage on renewals—some 2½ per cent., and some 5 per cent., on the premiums. This means to them their living, their all, their annuity in old age, and they would do their best to keep their policyholders where they are—and I am not sure that they are not right! Why should a man surrender to the North British and Mercantile to receive a bonus, in many cases for a few years only, of 28s. per cent. per annum compound, when, if he must surrender, he could place the large cash surrender value in his pocket and go to many offices paying a much higher bonus? The Mutual profits hitherto have been considerably in excess of the North British and Mercantile, and if they drop another 50 per cent. they will then be considerably better than a policy transferred to the North British and Mercantile that only has ten or twelve years to run. I am no lover of American life insurance, but a calm view of the situation will convince many policyholders that they are not meeting their position by jumping into the North British and Mercantile. It is not generally known to the large body of policyholders that the so called British Policyholders' Association is composed of a very small number of men as compared with the total number of policyholders. In conclusion, I would add that every policyholder that surrenders to the North British and Mercantile enhances the value of the policy of those who remain with the Mutual.

At the seventieth annual meeting of the shareholders of the **Liverpool and London and Globe,** May 15, the chairman, Mr. W. F. Moore, made the following announcement in his address of the forthcoming resignation of Manager Dove:

I allude to the retirement from the post of manager at the end of the present year of our friend and fellow worker, Mr. Dove. In Mr. Dove's presence I cannot say all I would wish, and the directors would wish, of our appreciation, and I am sure I may also say the shareholders' appreciation, of the magnificent services which Mr. Dove has rendered to this company. The position of the company today is very different from what it was when Mr. Dove joined. During the period of his service as manager the fire premiums have risen from, say, about £1,000,000 to about £2,200,000, and the funds of the company, other than life, from £1,930,000 to over £4,960,000. This in itself is a testimonial of service which any man may be proud of having rendered to the company of which he has been manager. Gentlemen, we shall all join in the expression of regret at Mr. Dove's retirement, but every cloud has its silver lining, and it is a matter of the greatest satisfaction to us, as it will be to you, that Mr. Dove, on retirement from the post of manager, will take a seat on the board, and that his valuable advice and experience will still be available. We shall all wish Mr. Dove many happy years to enjoy the rest he has so well earned. You will have learnt from the report that it is the intention of the directors to appoint Mr. Dent, our present sub-manager, to succeed Mr. Dove on his retirement. I am quite sure that Mr. Dent will prove himself an energetic and able manager, and will have the best interests of the company at heart, and will prove himself in every way a worthy successor to his predecessors in this responsible office. Mr. Dent is, as I have said, at present in the United States, and we trust that his visit there and the knowledge that he will gain in visiting our principal centres will be of much value to the company.

The result of the deliberations of the **special grand jury** investigating life insurance cases will be the indictment of one of the prominent officers of the Mutual Life insurance company for forgery, based on false entries in the books of the company. It is understood that a number of persons, including Andrew C. Fields, Lysander W. Lawrence and Edward W. Rogers, of the supply furnishing department, will not be prosecuted, because they were promised immunity by the district attorney if they would testify to the facts sought for by the jury. This they have done. President Peabody, of the Mutual Life, is quoted as having made the following comment on the result of the labors of the special grand jury:

Of course, I do not want to seem to criticise the district attorney's office, but the matter reminds me somewhat of the old Latin quotation about the mountain laboring and bringing forth a mouse. They have been six weeks at the work, with a great deal of newspaper talk, and the net result is that they have promised immunity to five or six men for the sake of a possible indictment against one.

Five persons, representatives of a yellow newspaper, have petitioned the Governor for the removal of District Attorney Jerome on the ground among others that he has neglected the prosecution of life insurance officials, and "shown himself to be possessed of a deficient moral sense, and by act and word has demonstrated his unfitness for the public service his office requires."

On the application of the directors of the **Equitable Life** the justices of the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court unanimously decided to permit the directors' **plan of mutualization** to be carried out. The petition sought a modification of the injunction order obtained by Franklin B. Lord, a minority stockholder, preventing the adoption of the mutualization plan as projected a year ago. William B. Hornblower appeared for the motion, which was opposed by Henry DeForest Baldwin, attorney for Lord. The modification of the order is as follows:

The said injunction order shall not be understood as enjoining the defendant society, its directors, officers or agents from taking steps to amend the charter of the said society in accordance with the provisions of any act of the Legislature which may be passed after the date of said order, but is only understood as enjoining proceedings under the provisions of law in force on the date of said order and the said order is modified accordingly, and as so modified is affirmed.

Attached to the petition is a statement of the president of the society, Paul Morton, to the effect that the directors intend to so amend the charter that the policyholders may have a majority representation on the board, there being twenty-eight directors from the policyholders and twenty-four stockholders. A letter from Grover Cleveland, dated May 22, is also annexed, in which he approves of the amended charter. Presiding Justice Hirschberg and his associates promptly granted the modifying order.

The incorporators of the new **Fidelity Fire insurance company** of New York are: Henry Evans, president of the Continental insurance company, and G. E. Kline, Francis L. Hine, William H. Moore, E. C. Converse, J. N. Wallace, John J. Riker, George Blumenthal, Donald Mackay, John P. Branch, Samuel A. Walsh, Henry K. Pomroy and Henry C. Tinker. The company is to have a capital of $1,000,000 and a surplus of $1,500,000, to be provided by the issue of stock at $250 for each share, par value. A circular issued by the incorporators says:

It is intended that the business of the corporation shall be conducted by the management of the Continental insurance company, and that, in so far as possible, this company and the Continental insurance company shall be operated for the mutual advantage of both companies. With this end in view, the stock of the company is to be offered to the shareholders of the Continental insurance company for their subscription at prices herein stated upon the basis of one share of stock in this company for each one share of stock in the Continental insurance company owned by them. But, as it is important to the interests of this company that all subscriptions shall be paid in time so that the company may be placed in a position to begin business by July 1, 1906, such portion of the capital stock of this company as shall not be subscribed and paid for by shareholders of the Continental insurance company upon a pro rata basis of one share of this company for each share of stock of the Continental insurance company, on or before June 18, 1906, will be allotted to such other persons as desire to take shares of stock of the Fidelity Fire insurance company.

On charges of **attempted bribery of Insurance Commissioner Host,** the Secretary of State of Wisconsin, Walter L.

Houser, was arrested at Madison, Wis., on Thursday. The charge grows out of testimony given recently by Commissioner Host to the Wisconsin Legislative Insurance Investigating Committee. Host testified that Houser brought to him a prepared draft of a decision desired by the Equitable Life two years ago, and said if the decision, or one substantially the same, should be rendered, the company would contribute $2,000 toward the La Follette campaign fund. Mr. Houser declares that the draft of the decision had been handed him with a request that he carry it to Host, but denied that he knew the contents of the paper. The commissioner's decision was against the society. The case was then carried into the courts, and Commissioner Host's ruling was reversed. The general impression in Wisconsin is that the fight between the commissioner and the Secretary of State is largely political, as the latter is a candidate for renomination by the Republicans, and so is Senator Frear, the chairman of the investigating committee.

How **San Francisco** looks to a fire insurance man has already been told. Not so, however, **from the standpoint of the life insurance officer.** Mr. H. S. Ford, recorder of the New York Life, returned from the stricken city a few days ago after a month's absence. He left for the West shortly after the fire, taking with him duplicate records of the New York Life, as first reports had it that that company's records had been entirely wiped out. That these had been preserved by being hurried to the country by the Western agent when the extent of the fire was realized in the city was discovered later. The New York Life was one of the first companies to reestablish an office in San Francisco for the transaction of its routine business, and is now located on Mission street, not far from Market, in a building which was gutted by the flames, but whose lower floors were immediately put in a tenantable condition. In common with the other companies the New York Life has helped to relieve the situation by loaning on its policies, and thus the insured have been enabled to begin business in many cases with a substantial sum. All these payments of loans were made in gold.

The special committee of the New Jersey Senate to investigate life insurance held its first formal meeting at the State House at Trenton on June 1. The morning session was taken up with the statement by William H. Corbin, counsel for the committee, who outlined what he believed to be the committee's aim in the proceedings. He explained the New York investigation of the life insurance companies and its results, particularly in the matter of legislation, and said that he believed the New Jersey committee should make an investigation for the purpose of determining, first, what limitations should be placed upon investments by life insurance companies; second, what limitations should be placed upon the kind of policies to be issued; third, whether deferred dividend policies should be permitted; fourth, whether political contributions by life insurance companies should be allowed, and fifth, as to whether the powers of the Banking and Insurance Commissioner should be enlarged. The only witness called was Thomas K. Johnston, deputy commissioner of banks and insurance. The committee adjourned subject to Chairman Hillery's call.

Recent tests of **signaling by** means of **submarine bells** have been held at the Sandy Hook lightship, and the results are being watched with interest by marine underwriters. The bell is hung from the keel of the lightship. A wheel turning in the engine room of the lightship marks off a given space of time. Then a notch releases enough compressed air to drive the tongue of the submarine bell. Vessels wishing to have the advantages of the submarine signals are fitted with a telephone, beginning in the wheelhouse and ending in the bilges. Here, closely pressed against the sides of the vessel, is a transmitter case filled with water, in which is inserted a microphone. On each side of the vessel there is a receiver of this pattern. A switch closes the port microphone and leaves the starboard one open. Both receivers are opened and closed in turn until it becomes evident to the skipper from which side the sound comes loudest. This part of the invention, it is hoped by the inventors, will be improved upon so that mariners can tell with accuracy whence the sounds come.

The Missouri Supreme Court has at last decided the Westerman case against the Endowment Rank of the Knights of Pythias, reversing itself and holding that **fraternal organizations are not liable to the Missouri laws governing regular life insurance** companies. The original decision applied the Missouri non-forfeiture law to fraternal policies, holding that although the policy in litigation had been lapsed for some time it should have an extended value, which would have kept it in force until after Westerman's death. The result would have been to put practically all the fraternal insurance organizations out of business in Missouri, as they would have been liable for millions of dollars in claims under lapsed policies. Although the decision of the first division of the Supreme Court had been unanimous, such strong representations for the need of a rehearing were made that this was granted, and the case was heard by the court sitting en banc. Four judges concurred in the decision, one concurred in part, and the chief justice dissented, but furnished no opinion.

On Thursday the **Old Colony insurance company of Boston** received its certificate from the Massachusetts Insurance Department. It has already applied for admission to the other New England, the Middle and Atlantic States, and will probably begin writing business by July 1. George W. Watt and I. Lloyd Greene, special agents respectively for New England and New York of the Boston insurance company, have been appointed assistant managers of the Boston and Old Colony, and will hereafter make their headquarters at the home office with Manager Edmund Winchester. The New England special agency for both companies has been conferred upon A. H. Mills, that for New York upon F. O. Channell, both old time employees of the Boston, but Messrs. Watt and Greene will continue to have jurisdiction over their former fields. Harold Haskins, at present special agent for the London Assurance in the Philadelphia suburban field, has been apopinted special agent for the Middle department, dividing the field with Special Agent Burkhardt.

How trivial are some of the **claims that a casualty company has to pass upon** was demonstrated only a few days ago when a policyholder in a well known company asked for indemnity under a burglary policy for a $5 umbrella. The claim made was for $4, which was turned over for settlement by the company involved. The policyholder was moving out of a house as another family moved in. He missed the umbrella in the commotion and promptly put in his claim. Not a bad advertisement for the company, but think of the small premium. Another recent case which has been duly authenticated was that of a clergyman living up in New York State, who had his pantry raided by hoboes and who made a claim for $1.50, the amount of his loss. The goods taken were three loaves of bread, one apple pie and a jar of jam. That's where the insurance company got stuck, you may say? Oh, no, it was rumored that there was a bottle among the stolen goods, but this has not been verified, as the tramps have yet to be found.

Suit has been entered at Boston by **Dana W. and Dexter F. Bennett against George McCarthy** of that city, damages of $100,000 being claimed by each of the Bennetts. The plaintiffs, who are now identified with the F. G. Macomber insurance office, were for a short time in partnership with the defendant as Boston representatives of the London and Lancashire, prior to which the Bennetts had been the Boston agents of the company for many years. McCarthy was originally of the firm of John C. Paige & Co., and now is the head of the Randall, McCarthy & Co. agency. In their declaration the Bennetts allege conspiracy to get away their business, and a number of other things hurtful to themselves, against McCarthy. They have also sued the International Trust Company for $25,000 each on similar charges, one of which alleges conspiracy between McCarthy and the trust company to get them out of business.

There is still uncertainty in the West as to any system on authorizing **adjustment of losses at the market price of the articles destroyed,** instead of the cost of production. The West Virginia Fire Underwriters' Association recently adopted a rule by which companies would write lumber, subject to adjustment, at the market price instead of the cost price, but has returned to the former plan. The market price controls in the case of grain in elevators, cotton and other staples having a recognized market value. A similar controversy is on at Bradford, Pa., over the claim on the Overholt distillery. The distillers insist upon settlement at the selling price of the whiskey, while the companies stand for the cost of manufacture as the basis of loss. Of the $167,500 insurance involved, $68,000 has been paid by compromise, while $99,500 is standing out and will be submitted to litigation.

From the Western Department of the American of Newark comes an interesting circular entitled **"After the Conflagration and the Storm, What?"** It is an illustrated folder, containing a facsimile of the first draft paid by the American in settlement of one of its San Francisco conflagration losses. Other pictures follow, among them an excellent view of the conflagration while at its height; some of the ruins after the fire; a street in which a large crevasse was torn; a view of the conflagration at Bloomington, Ill., in June, 1900, at which the American paid $25,000 in losses; and a picture of a church and dwelling at St. Charles, Mo., blown over in a tornado in October, 1903. The question at the head of these photos is "Are you rich enough to carry the risk against such losses as these?" The idea is a clever advertising scheme of the company's Western general agent, Mr. Charles E. Sheldon.

The **conference of surety underwriters,** held at Philadelphia on Wednesday, did not make progress as far as an organization, but matters pertaining to the business were discussed with that end in view. All the surety and casualty companies interested in these lines were present, either by representative or by proxy, the absentees being the American Surety of New York and the Fidelity and Deposit of Baltimore. The sessions began at the Bellevue-Stratford at 1:30, and lasted well into the afternoon. Another meeting will be held in perhaps a month's time, but no date was named. The organization will not concern itself at all with rates, but will work for the best in other features of the business. It is probable that the organization will facilitate reinsurances, and be conducted along the lines of the existing accident and life associations.

The American of Newark is sending to its agents the photographic facsimile of the draft above alluded to which was paid to a San Francisco claimant. The receipt attached shows that on May 14 $2,000 was received by Mrs. A. A. Hutchins and Henry Peters in payment of loss on their property by the fire of April 19. In a circular accompanying these exhibits Vice President Hoadley says to the agents of the company:

> It may interest you to know that at the time the disaster occurred the American had 1,431 policies in force in the entire city of San Francisco, of which 869 policies covered property in the burned district, and 562 outside of that district. It is no small undertaking for three, or even a half dozen, adjusters to tackle 869 losses where nearly every claimant insists that his loss shall receive first attention. Some of them will have to wait three, four or possibly six months before their turn will come. The result of adjustments thus far made indicates that the total loss to our company will be less than $1,000,000.

A policy automatically non-lapsing and written on both the annual and deferred dividend plans has been issued by the **Pacific Mutual Life insurance company.** So long as the reserve value on the policy will meet the premiums as they fall due, the insurance remains in force. Another feature is the total disability clause providing for the payment to the insured of annual advances on account of the amount payable as a death claim. A novel clause is that limiting the expense of getting new business in which the company pledges itself not to use the surplus earnings of the policy on the annual dividend plan for securing new business. Attractive accident and health features are added to the contract, whose low rate is made possible by the superior character of the risk, as shown by the medical examination and inspection.

A "Jack the smasher," later arrested, got busy with his hatchet early Monday morning on the Mercantile block, corner of Fourth avenue and Twenty-third street, New York city, and when he was through **sixteen plate glass windows were no more.** The insurance was carried by the Metropolitan Casualty Company, which estimates the loss at $1,000. The same man smashed eighteen windows in this block last year and eight the year before, and yet he had nothing against the owners of the building or any known reason for the deed. The proprietors of the stores whose windows were demolished took advantage of the opportunity to advertise their wares to the gaping crowds, and it is safe to say that they lost nothing through the experience. The Metropolitan is not likely to insure that block again.

The **new salt water mains at Coney Island** were tested on Wednesday for the benefit of the fire underwriters. Twelve streams of water were used at a pressure varying from 135 to 150 pounds. Thirty men were engaged in the test. It was claimed that they were doing an equal amount of work to 100 men at a four alarm fire. The underwriters were satisfied with the test. Some said that there might be a reduction in the insurance rates at Coney Island in the near future. The rates have already been reduced 25 per cent. Besides President George W. Burchell and members of the Fire Underwriters' Association, several city officials attended the test. Afterward the party was entertained by Senator Reynolds at a dinner in Dreamland. Later they watched a fire drill of the Dreamland fire squad.

Efforts to twist the **British policyholders of the Equitable Life** are now being made through a London firm of solicitors, who are sending them requests to communicate their names and addresses, to enable the convening of a meeting to discuss the establishment of an organization to protect their interests. The letter says that the policyholders of the companies ought to co-operate for mutual protection unless they wish to be "left at the mercy of the New York management." The solicitors had already written to the New York Life insurance company, asking for a list of its British policy-

holders, but they received no reply. Therefore, they were driven to ask the help of the newspapers, they say.

Cancellation notices are being sent out by the agency firm of Blagden, Kelly & Fuller to policyholders in the **Citizens of St. Louis** in the congested parts of the metropolitan district which this firm manages. The reason given is the inadequate water pressure in the sections of high conflagration hazard and the inefficient fire alarm system in vogue. This step is in conformity with the new policy of the New York Underwriters' Agency of not taking any new business in the congested district, and of the Hartford Fire, which stopped this week writing in the congested district of Manhattan. The Citizens has already ceased to write in the conflagration centres of all the large cities of the country.

On the complaint of Mine Inspector Botting, of the State of Washington, Dr. Livingstone, surgeon for the Pacific Coast Company at Black Diamond, and others, Deputy Insurance Commissioner Shiveley has taken measures against the **Mutual Reserve Life insurance company** and its agents there under the anti-rebate law of 1905. Botting, Livingstone and others, it is alleged, were induced to take "advisory board" policies, through which they were entitled to a rebate or commission on insurance written by the company through their aid. This practice is held to be illegal under the law against rebates. Hearing will be held at Olympia next Monday.

The **estimated loss by fire** in the United States and Canada in the month of May was, according to the compiler of the *Journal of Commerce*, $16,512,850. A comparison of the losses in the first five months of 1904, 1905 and 1906 is as follows.

	1904.	1905.	1906.
January	$21,790,200	$16,378,100	$17,723,800
February	90,651,000	25,591,000	18,249,350
March	11,212,150	14,751,400	18,727,750
April	23,623,000	11,901,350	292,501,150
May	15,221,400	12,736,250	16,512,850
Totals, five months	$161,891,750	$81,358,100	$353,714,900

The New York Court of Appeals on Tuesday decided in favor of the fire insurance companies in the test suit of the German-American insurance company against the **New York gas and electric light** and other companies, including the Edison Company, for damages growing out of alleged negligence of the latter, in causing a fire. In the fight in the courts the defendant denied the right of the insurance company to assign its right of subrogation under a policy, maintaining that it was an equitable right and not a legal one. The Court of Appeals affirmed the contention of the insurance companies on this point.

The projected **American Mutual Life of Chicago,** which was to take over the Western Life Indemnity of Chicago, has been merged with the Fort Dearborn Life. The combine will keep the American's name. The officers and a majority of the directors of the American Mutual resigned and directors of the Fort Dearborn were elected in their stead. W. E. Witherbee, of Munger, Vokoun, Wetmore & Witherbee, has been elected treasurer of the Fort Dearborn Life, which is being promoted by J. E. Myers and E. A. Loomis, Jr. W. R. Payne, formerly general manager of the Chicago Life, is associated with them.

Lectures on life insurance, by Dr. Frank L. McVey, of the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis, have been arranged for the fall session. The subjects are: "The History of Life Insurance and Its Development in the United States," "Definition of Life Insurance Terms and Types of Policies," "Computation of the Premium, the Reserve, Its Organization and Its Uses," "The Dividend in Life Insurance, Deferred and Annual," "Assessment Insurance," "The Work of the Agent and His Relation to the Company and the Policyholder and the Rights of the Policyholder," "Medical Selection," "Life Insurance as an Economic Force."

The **Standard Life and Accident of Detroit** has begun to issue automobile liability policies, insuring the owner against loss from liability for injuries to persons caused by the use of his automobile. The accident on being reported to the company is investigated by it, and the owner of the machine relieved of all responsibility growing out of possible lawsuits. The company has issued a handy chart, giving the motor laws of the various States, with particulars as to licenses, speeds, numbers and penalties. The pamphlet is invaluable to an automobilist.

The committee of the New York State Bar Association, to which was referred the resolution calling for the investigation of the relations of **David B. Hill** in his employment by the Equitable Life Assurance Society, which investigation was requested by Mr. Hill, reported on June 1 that the investigation had been concluded, and that in the opinion of the committee there was nothing improper or unprofessional in Mr. Hill's relations with the insurance company, and that the compensation received by him for such services was not excessive.

A victory for the **General Accident of Perth** was scored this week when papers filed with the Insurance Department regarding the projected General American Casualty Company of Philadelphia, organized by Muir & Haughton, were withdrawn. Accident underwriters at a recent hearing testified that the name General American was likely to be confused with the General Accident, to the prejudice of the older company. It is not believed that Muir & Haughton have abandoned their plan of securing a charter for a casualty company.

The State Life of Indiana has **retired from Tennessee** rather than comply with the request of Commissioner Folk for information regarding its board plan. Tennessee does not permit the writing of insurance on the board plan, but the Attorney General has ruled that companies making those contracts in other States may do business in Tennessee. The commissioner requested copies of all board contracts, and the total amounts paid under these contracts for each of the last three years. The State Life refused to furnish copies of its contracts.

The **Georgia Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents,** at its annual meeting at Atlanta, elected new officers and executive committee as follows: President, Frank G. Lumpkin, Columbus; first vice president, George R. Turpin, Macon; second vice president, W. F. Train, Savannah; secretary and treasurer, Henry Levert, Austell. Executive committee, Fred W. Cole, Atlanta; Alfred Dearing Harden, Savannah; E. J. Blackshear, Dublin; W. M. Fulcher, Waynesboro; S. B. West, Macon; R. E. Allen, Augusta; Phil. Lanier, West Point.

The Southern general agency of the **American of Newark,** with E. G. Seibels at Columbia, S. C., will be discontinued, and after July 1 the agents will report direct to the home office. The company will enter several additional States in

the South. The Texas general agency will probably not be disturbed at present. Mr. H. R. Bush, late superintendent of the Southern department of the Traders of Chicago, who takes a similar position with the American at the home office, will begin his duties June 15.

"The companies are not saying a good word for **the struggling agent"** was the complaint of a gray haired solicitor of one of the large companies in New York city a few days ago. "The daily papers are pounding us, the public has lost confidence in us, and the companies have their hands so full with laws and lists and what not, that they forget to even get out canvassing literature." So saying he turned on his heel after leaving the supply department and went off to round up a $10,000 prospect.

The French Government, in Council of State, has adopted a number of **changes in the insurance laws of France.** Among them is one to the effect that the law has retroactive force. This is contrary to the former opinion of the Ministry and the American embassy. One of two things may now happen. First, the Government may issue a decree, putting immediately into force the rules as amended. Second, it may suspend the decree, pending further representations by the American authorities.

With its surplus and part of its reserve wiped out by losses at San Francisco, the **Colonial Fire of Washington, D. C.,** has decided to wind up its affairs. Its San Francisco losses were about $100,000 and its capital is $200,000. The company will not reinsure, but allow its annual business to expire and actual liquidation to take place next year. The Colonial began business in 1900 under a West Virginia charter, but incorporated in 1902 under the laws of the District.

Organized in May, and licensed in New York State, with a cash capital of $300,000 and a $150,000 surplus, the **Cosmopolitan Fire of New York** began writing business on Monday. The officers are: Adolph Loeb, president; Leo A. Loeb, vice president; H. A. Scheftel, second vice president, and Louis L. Loeb, secretary. Adolph Loeb & Sons are its general agents for the United States, and Loeb & Barry are its Eastern agents, including the metropolitan district.

The investigation of the **Union Central Life of Cincinnati** by the Wisconsin committee has been proceeding during the week, and Secretary Marshall and Assistant Secretary Hardcastle have been in Milwaukee to testify. "Nepotism" has been discovered, also salaries have been advanced during the past ten years, and it is alleged that the "dividend law" has been violated. The company is found to be "completely under the control of the stockholders," etc.

There has been some speculation on the street for several days **whether the new Fidelity Fire will enter the Exchange.** If the company is merely a wheelbarrow for carrying the reinsurance of the Continental it will not be called upon to enter the Exchange. As to this point President Evans when seen was particularly non-committal. "I have nothing to say at the present time," said he. "Why, the company isn't formed yet."

That there is **some comradeship among fire insurance companies** is shown by the action of the companies in Louisiana. The Insurance Department there suspended the license of the Fireman's Fund during its period of uncertainty after the conflagration, and much of the business was replaced in other companies. These are now authorizing such policies to be cancelled flat in order that the business may be replaced by the new Firemen's Fund.

The **Brooklyn Fire Insurance Salvage Corps,** at its annual meeting Monday, elected the following officers: Edward E. Pearce, president; Frank T. Stinson, vice president; John S. Oliver, treasurer; Andrew J. Corsa, secretary; directors, John A. De Groot, Edward B. Vanderveer, T. A. Ralston, Alfred Hodges, Britton C. Thorn, Gustav Schimmel, George C. Howe, Henry Blatchford, Curtis C. Wayland and John H. Kelly.

To meet the losses sustained in the San Francisco conflagration, without impairing its present capital or assets, and to further provide an additional surplus, the stockholders of the **Queen City Fire of Sioux Falls,** S. Dak., are voluntarily subscribing a sum which will aggregate $225,000. Of this, $125,000 will go to meet estimated losses in San Francisco, and $100,000 will go to the surplus account of the company.

Cargo insurance rates on the great lakes have advanced so rapidly of late that shippers of ore have been seriously embarrassed. They will not load wooden boats unless the owners carry the insurance on the cargoes. Others will require the owners to pay the difference between the rates on steel and wooden hulls, which is from 30 to 50 cents per $100. Ore men say they will not pay the advanced rates.

The **Illinois Life of Chicago** received applications for three-quarters of a million dollars last week in response to a request for a special effort in honor of the birthday of President J. W. Stevens. The company has selected Cedar Point, on Lake Erie, near Sandusky, as the place to hold the 1906 convention of the $100,000 Club. Four have already qualified, although the club year does not end until July 21.

The **Western Factory Insurance Association** has written the sprinklered line of the C. R. Wilson Body Company at Detroit, manufacturers of automobile trimmings, amounting to $50,000. The Walker warehouse at Minneapolis has been equipped with Grinnell sprinklers. It houses the original packing stock of the Wyman-Partridge Dry Goods Company, and the line is now being placed by local agents.

The subject of the **competition** of life underwriters **for the Ben Calif Loving Cup and Ben Williams Vase,** respectively first and second prizes, is: "The Relation of the Public Press to American Life Insurance." It is expected that a large number of essays will be submitted to the committee of the National Association of Life Underwirters, which will have the matter of award in charge.

The return in the matter of the **appeal proceedings** to determine whether **George W. Perkins,** as chairman of the finance committee of the New York Life insurance company, committed a crime in paying a political contribution of the company in 1904 has been filed with the Court of Appeals. It is not known whether the appeal will be argued at this term of the Court of Appeals.

A regular meeting of the **Burglary Underwriters' Association** of New York was held yesterday morning at the office of the New Amsterdam Casualty Company, 76 William street, New York city, beginning at 10:30 o'clock. There were eighteen delegates present, and the regular routine business was

transacted. The meeting was still in session at the time of going to press.

The **Cleveland Inspection Bureau** has discontinued the publication of the list of risks whose electrical equipment was found to be unsatisfactory. A Cleveland local agency has been reporting regularly these lists to local electrical contractors, and as its identity could not be learned, to stop the practice the issuance of the bulletins has been stopped.

The Franklin Fire of Philadelphia announces the appointment of M. F. Grim as special agent for Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia, to succeed A. M. L. Wasson, transferred. His headquarters will be at 35½ North High street, Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Wasson has been placed in supervisory charge of the State of Illinois, with the title of special agent.

The Arkansas Insurance Commissioner has issued a call for a **meeting of Arkansas policyholders** in mutual insurance companies of New York for June 23, at Little Rock, to perfect a State organization to select representatives and decide on a ticket for directors of such insurance companies as provided by an act of the New York Legislature.

The **Shawnee Fire insurance company of Topeka** has increased its capital stock from $100,000 to $200,000, and notice to this effect has been filed with the Secretary of State. The sum of $100,000 will be added to the surplus, bringing the company's assets up to a round million. The new stock was paid for at the rate of $200 a share.

The **British America and Western of Toronto** will petition the Canadian parliament to be allowed to increase their capital stock. They will add to their directorates. The present authorized capital stock of the Western is $2,000,000, and the paid up $1,500,000, while that of the British America is $1,500,000 and the paid up $850,000.

The stockholders of the **Hanover Fire insurance company** will hold a special meeting on Tuesday next to vote on the plan of the trustees to reduce the capital stock from $1,000,000 to $500,000. This step precedes the issuing of $500,000 new stock at 150 each, whereby the surplus of the company will be materially strengthened.

Four more fire insurance companies have been **admitted to Texas,** making a total of 140 regular insurance companies operating in the State. The new arrivals are the National Lumber of Buffalo, the New Jersey Fire of Camden, the Colonial of New York and the Jefferson Fire of Philadelphia.

At a meeting of the Boston Chamber of Commerce on last Tuesday resolutions were adopted opposing the projected **advance in rates by the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters,** and a committee was appointed by the Chamber of Commerce to argue the matter with representatives of the board.

The **Metropolitan Life insurance company** has elected to the newly created office of treasurer Frederick H. Ecker, who has been for several years comptroller of the company. Walter Stabler will succeed Mr. Ecker as comptroller, and will continue to have charge of the company's real estate.

Convicted of embezzling a check for $675 belonging to the **Northwestern National Life of Minneapolis,** Dr. Jacob F. Force may serve from one to ten years in the penitentiary for robbing the company, of which he was formerly a vice president and director. The case will be appealed.

Fire insurance agents at Omaha are charged with **writing blanket policies** and allowing a concession for the 90 per cent. reduced rate clause. The attention of agents is being called to the rule prohibiting any reduction for the use of this clause on blanket policies.

The **Germania Fire of New York** has instructed Guthard & Sons, its Detroit managers, to secure the full tariff rate on all risks hereafter. The Germania will not, however, join the Detroit Club until it removes its requirement of a $25 fee for each solicitor.

The Pennsylvania Fire of Philadelphia will increase its capital from $400,000 to $750,000 by issuing 3,500 new shares, $100 par, at $400 per share, the extra $300 per share to be added to the company's surplus, thus increasing it by $1,050,000.

The local department at Rochester, N. Y., of the **Rochester German insurance company** has been consolidated with the Egbert F. Ashley Company, local agency of that city, which now represents eighteen prominent fire insurance companies.

The **Maryland Casualty Company** is preparing a new combination accident policy, with features designed by Superintendent T. B. M. Terhune, of the New York office. The policy will be put on the market in a few weeks.

The Metropolitan Surety and the Adirondack Fire insurance companies of New York were **admitted to Massachusetts** this week, with A. F. Brown, Jr., and T. J. Caulkins, respectively, as their Boston agents.

The membership of the **Surplus Line Association** is now nineteen, the remaining members having assumed pro rata the liability of the Traders, which is in the hands of a receiver, without electing a successor.

An effort is being made by Moses Tanenbaum to organize an **independent fire insurance brokers' organization** in New York, and a meeting for the purpose has been called for June 20.

Charged with having burned Gill's stables at the Readville, Mass., trotting park last Saturday night, James Finden has been held in $3,000 for the September grand jury of Norfolk County.

The **Keystone Underwriters,** a combination composed of the Union, Monongahela, German and German-American insurance companies of Pittsburgh, will begin business in a few days.

The **Tribe of Ben Hur,** an Indiana fraternal, has decided to extend its prohibited list, and to increase rates on all new members engaged in hazardous occupations.

The **Fire Insurance Exchange of New York** will hold a meeting next Wednesday to consider amendments to the arbitration clause of the agreement.

An increase in the capital stock of the **Commonwealth Fire of Dallas** to $250,000 will be made, after which additional States will be entered.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

New Amsterdam Casualty: F. F. James, late Indiana State agent of Ohio German, State agent for Indiana, with headquarters in Indianapolis.

Mr. A. G. Dent, sub-manager of the Liverpool and London and Globe at the home office, is spending the week at Chicago department headquarters. On January 1, 1907, Mr. Dent will succeed Mr. Dove as fire manager of the company, and is in the United States to become better acquainted with its work here. In company with Mr. W. S. Warren, the resident secretary in Chicago, he will visit St. Louis, Kansas City, Minneapolis, St. Paul and other centres in that field.

Governor Pattison, of Ohio, has improved in health, and has been removed from Cincinnati to his country home at Milford, Ohio. He was able to devote all one day last week to a conference with Secretary Marshall in reference to the examination of the Union Central Life by the Wisconsin investigating committee. The Cincinnati *Times-Star* says: "Governor Pattison went over all the ground thoroughly, and his strength and energy were a surprise to his physicians."

Senator John F. Dryden, president of the Prudential insurance company, has been formally announced as a candidate for re-election to the Senate. His political friends claim that his wish to be returned to the Senate is reasonable, in view of the fact that he is filling the unexpired term of the late Senator Sewell, and in accordance with party usage is entitled to re-election. The entire Congressional delegation from New Jersey is heartily in favor of Mr. Dryden.

Colonel Andrew G. Dickinson, former manager for the New York Life of its South American department, died on Monday in New York at the age of seventy-one years. He was a Virginian, and had a distinguished military record on the Confederate side in the Civil War. He retired several years ago from business, but had always been prominent in the affairs of the Southern colony in New York.

Mr. William B. Kelly, former general manager of the American Fire of Philadelphia, who had gone to the Pacific Coast as special representative of the Franklin Fire to participate in the loss adjustments, died in San Francisco June 1, from pneumonia. Mr. Kelly was widely known as a fire underwriter of ability and experience, and was general manager of the American Fire from 1899 to 1905.

Mr. C. L. Hecox, Michigan State agent of the Spring Garden, has been appointed State agent of the Delaware and Reliance for West Virginia, as well as Ohio, taking effect June 1. He will be located at the Western department headquarters in Chicago for a time, during the absence of Assistant Manager J. W. Brooks, who is at San Francisco.

Mr. Thomas J. McClelland, special agent of the New Amsterdam Casualty Company at Kansas City, Mo., was a visitor at the home office this week. He has been transferred from the Western field and made special agent in Pennsylvania, through which State he will travel, establishing agencies and looking after the company's interests there.

Mr. George M. Lovejoy, of Lovejoy & Spear, Western managers of the Phœnix of Hartford, who has been out of service for nearly a year because of illness, is about to return to his desk. T. F. Spear is to go on an Eastern vacation, and during his absence H. H. Heaford, general adjuster at Chicago, will be at the Cincinnati office.

Mr. M. A. Reynolds, acting secretary of the Millers' National Fire of Chicago, has been made secretary and manager, and John W. Heywood, of Minneapolis, treasurer, succeeding W. I. Neely, resigned. The directors adopted resolutions declaring that Mr. Neely had no part in the transaction charged against the other officers.

Governor Hanly, of Wisconsin, and Congressman Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio, have yielded to solicitations to become members of the so called International Policyholders' Committee, run in the interest of the Bowles-Untermyer-Lawson combine. They will know more when they are older.

President Pendennis White, of the Lumber insurance company of New York, and of the newly formed Adirondack, also of New York, was killed in an auto accident at Buffalo on May 31. He had $75,000 insurance, $50,000 in the New York Life and $25,000 in the National Life of Vermont.

Ex-Vice President James H. Hyde, of the Equitable Life, reached his thirtieth birthday on Monday. Henry B. Hyde left his Equitable stock to his son to become the property of the latter absolutely when he became thirty years old. He sold this interest to Thomas F. Ryan a year ago.

Mr. George M. Hippee retires as president of the Hawkeye Fire of Des Moines and becomes vice president, while Mr. H. R. Howell, who has been assistant secretary, becomes president, and W. D. Skinner, who has been vice president and general manager, becomes secretary.

Ex-President James W. Alexander, of the Equitable Life, sailed May 19 from Boston on a Cunard liner, bound for Munich, Bavaria. Dr. Pearce Bailey, his physician, accompanied him.

Mr. J. H. M. Weaver has resigned as secretary of the Eastern department of the American Fire of Philadelphia, to go with the agency department of the Franklin.

Mr. J. H. MacFarlane, an examiner in the Western department of the Providence Washington, has been appointed special agent for the Newark Fire in the West.

Mr. William C. Cole, for twenty-five years secretary of the Hawkeye Fire of Des Moines, died there from paralysis May 28, aged fifty-four years.

Col. Lucerne P. Harper, senior member of the Baltimore, Md., insurance firm of Harper & West, died of diabetes May 29, aged fifty-seven years.

Mr. C. E. Baster has resigned as Michigan manager of the Manhattan Life to become Detroit city manager of the Mutual Benefit.

Mr. Davis S. Creamer, a local agent at Bellaire, Ohio, has been appointed fire marshal of Ohio, succeeding the competent H. D. Davis.

Presidents Nichols, of the National Fire of Hartford, and Damon, of the Springfield, are on their way to San Francisco. Their companies are associated in the Coast general agency of George D. Dornin, who resigned the National last week.

Mr. H. A. W. Happer has resigned as special agent of the Westchester for Virginia and the Carolinas.

Miscellany.

"Flute's Fancies"—An Exposure of North Carolina Will-o'-the-Wisp Life Insurance Companies.

In North Carolina at the present time there are certain phases in the life insurance situation which are, to say the least, discouraging to agents of the established old line companies of other States. The time worn hue and cry of "keep the money at home" has been used to good advantage by the promoters of local life companies. The seven which have already been organized and are now under way are given to all kinds of catchpenny schemes, which somehow are so plausible on the surface that the agent trying to sell honest life insurance is up against a serious proposition.

The credulous public, always looking for a bargain, doesn't stop to analyze the contracts of the North Carolina companies. They look like good things—they comply with the so called "reserve deposit law," and the State apparently thereby becomes surety for the payment of the face of the policy. The public likes the appearance of it, and the ingenuity of the agents of other companies is taxed to the utmost to refute the arguments advanced by the unscrupulous agents of the local concerns.

Our attention has been brought to a most novel plan for exposing the methods of the North Carolina companies. "Flute's Fancy, or the Tar Heel Frenzy" is the title of a little pamphlet published by an agent at Greensboro, N. C. His company is in no wise responsible for the pamphlet, and its name is in no way connected with it. The pamphlet is sold by its author, T. N. Winslow, of Greensboro, N. C., at 10 cents a copy, and has already met with a large sale.

It contains an organization prospectus of the "Auto-be Life Insurance Company of Greensboro, N. C.," and starts out with a burlesque on the prospectuses of the Greensboro Life, and one or two others recently announced. It roasts the Legal Reserve Deposit Act, originated by the Security Life and Annuity of North Carolina, and in a unique way points out the defects of this act and the well known fact that it is used chiefly for advertising purposes, and to create the impression in the minds of the public that the State is in some sort of partnership with the company. There are several raps at the Attorney General and the Insurance Commissioner, which are perhaps rather ill advised, on account of the author's connection with an outside company, but are somewhat provoked by the situation. That much of the pamphlet is "writ sarkastic." There are two pages of comment—good, hard common sense, which point out to policyholders and others the dangers of lapsing policies in the old companies and taking up with the preliminary term, special contracts and board schemes, promoted by the locals. In a letter to the home office of this company Mr. Winslow, the author of "Flute's Fancy," says:

"'Flute's Fancy' is not as much fancy as reality. It simply borrows practices that can be collected (not with a muck rake but with an ordinary sedge broom) within a stone's throw of this office, and these practices are the practices of other North Carolina companies. * * The guarantees in the tables of surrenders (in the policy of one company whose rates are the same as charged by the Mutual Life of New York) are about the same as given by the Mutual. They further guarantee, according to age at entry, that a twenty payment life policy will become full paid in from sixteen to eighteen years, and they estimate in the contract that it will become full paid in thirteen years. The

(Continued on page 448.)

Fire Insurance Business in Massachusetts in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen & Munich F., Aix-la-Chapelle.	$3,963,562	$49,345	$23,659
Ætna, Hartford	41,129,273	386,408	172,408
Agricultural, Watertown	9,616,300	95,573	40,974
Albany, Albany	2,974,292	36,360	21,529
Alliance, Philadelphia	3,330,207	34,219	7,727
Alliance, London	5,612,485	41,235	18,171
American, Boston	4,854,398	43,420	23,380
American, Newark	6,223,461	69,505	24,630
American Central, St. Louis	12,302,173	135,147	65,014
American Fire, Philadelphia	7,027,447	78,542	42,336
American Lloyds, New York	3,018,863	22,140	3,908
Assurance Company of New York	3,550,296	26,862	18,327
Atlas, London	6,027,782	64,356	24,826
Boston, Boston	15,291,332	175,596	88,363
British America, Toronto	3,763,724	45,383	29,026
British American, New York	1,648,743	18,781	13,076
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	1,188,122	10,409	9,628
Buffalo German, Buffalo	3,347,728	23,500	15,384
Caledonian, Edinburgh	8,627,735	99,476	53,055
Caledonian American, New York	806,295	9,597	4,745
Calumet Fire, Chicago	977,873	11,168	2,888
Camden Fire, Camden	4,532,727	53,668	28,554
Capital Fire, Concord	3,220,303	33,898	18,030
Citizens, St. Louis	4,679,319	59,334	45,312
City Fire, New York	1,928,734	22,262	3,757
Cologne Reinsurance	4,778,993	47,783	36,912
Colonial, Washington	1,305,285	17,480	17,561
Colonial, New York	2,870,887	33,144	20,969
Commerce, Albany	1,477,631	14,232	10,192
Commercial Union, London	15,134,707	162,324	71,286
Commercial Union, New York	2,248,427	24,277	15,408
Commonwealth, New York	5,247,133	40,690	18,916
Concordia, Milwaukee	3,206,370	32,741	22,221
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	13,919,800	143,374	75,269
Continental, New York	18,372,427	211,583	131,026
County Fire, Philadelphia	1,326,520	12,374	6,021
Delaware, Philadelphia	4,391,723	54,077	39,190
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	2,295,689	21,601	11,628
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	3,642,859	47,879	34,433
Eagle Fire, New York	2,125,032	23,926	2,409
Eastern Fire, Atlantic City	903,168	12,618	3,619
Empire City, New York	1,951,341	22,634	12,249
Equitable Fire and Marine, Providence	6,857,075	67,898	38,567
Farmers Fire, York, Pa	3,297,655	45,990	27,534
Federal, Jersey City	2,679,584	18,109	12,702
Fire Association, Philadelphia	17,630,626	192,019	96,875
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	12,575,202	134,074	79,010
Firemen's Newark	7,108,791	71,466	32,253
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	3,410,890	34,764	14,872
Georgia Home, Columbus	615,170	5,038	637
German Alliance, New York	2,625,570	26,753	19,967
German American, New York	23,285,466	238,078	138,498
German Fire, Pittsburgh	5,180,183	48,213	39,202
German American, Baltimore	811,182	7,664	2,590
German, Freeport, Ill	9,380,223	86,247	61,822
German, Peoria, Ill	936,808	10,184	5,784
Germania Fire, New York	10,309,049	99,090	42,820
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia.	3,479,287	35,765	8,057
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	5,562,535	41,948	20,045
Granite State, Portsmouth, N. H	7,356,390	65,239	30,557
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	6,325,849	70,634	38,946
Hanover Fire, New York	9,101,663	101,745	64,419
Hartford Fire, Hartford	36,051,241	359,873	173,692
Home, New York	55,218,717	477,737	414,181
Home F. and M., San Francisco	5,235,884	53,544	26,318
Indemnity Fire, New York	899,657	10,349	3,775
India Mutual, Boston	1,815,684	23,695	16,733
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	276,150	3,434	3,173
Insurance Co. of North America	29,252,353	296,507	164,408
Ins. Co. of State of Pennsylvania	1,073,450	11,668	6,736
Law Union and Crown, London	2,140,689	11,172	6,477
Liverpool and London and Globe	31,697,756	361,735	200,208
London and Lancashire	13,967,272	100,297	60,754
London Assurance Corporation	8,829,383	92,785	49,155
Lumber, New York	277,060	3,879	4,286
Mechanics, Philadelphia	893,624	12,356	9,093
Mechanics and Traders, New Orleans.	3,070,814	26,440	22,259
Mercantile F. and M., Boston	5,195,347	58,647	29,382
Michigan Commercial, Detroit	1,810,424	11,728	4,762
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	3,054,824	31,761	13,339
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	411,540	4,267	2,436
Moscow, Moscow	3,705,133	35,726	22,568
Munich Reinsurance, Munich	29,775,697	281,483	137,000
Nassau Fire, New York	4,399,139	42,318	16,807
National Fire, Hartford	21,645,118	185,282	124,242
National Union, Pittsburgh	5,514,267	55,176	36,277
Newark Fire, Newark	556,769	5,443	4,866
New Brunswick, New Brunswick	240,383	2,232	2,377
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	16,716,807	180,302	103,404
New York Fire, New York	1,694,365	16,444	13,360
Niagara Fire, New York	22,475,127	253,557	135,022
North German Fire, New York	1,300,679	12,706	5,570
North British and Mercantile, London	20,967,394	194,730	82,943
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	3,500,060	22,305	2,330
Northern, New York	3,461,122	35,876	15,772
Northern, London	16,545,452	113,039	64,327
North River, New York	6,900,849	78,987	37,653
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	3,693,960	30,059	15,501
Norwich Union, Norwich	10,842,337	111,583	65,433
Orient, Hartford	6,828,531	45,405	28,117
Palatine, London	11,163,114	134,341	79,750
Pelican, New York	1,256,257	12,476	6,221
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	12,012,163	144,653	83,638
Phenix, Brooklyn	19,312,451	175,671	106,712
Phœnix, Hartford	23,897,281	205,603	111,541
Phœnix, London	8,406,552	112,766	70,019
Providence Washington, Providence	13,516,838	137,146	82,848
Prussian National, Stettin	6,679,185	48,328	19,491
Queen, New York	14,265,507	137,426	67,261
Reliance, Philadelphia	3,908,397	35,975	26,100
Rhode Island Fire, Providence	22,175,281	167,320	9,153
Rochester German, Rochester	5,565,937	67,353	36,461
Rossia, St. Petersburg	10,136,390	88,477	32,657
Royal, Liverpool	47,854,031	402,611	190,198
Royal Exchange, London	7,806,888	89,561	65,832
St. Paul F. and M., St. Paul	7,080,444	64,249	35,212
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	5,482,492	54,961	41,187
Scottish Union and National	9,828,048	97,763	54,854
Security, New Haven	8,389,472	82,900	31,153
Security, Baltimore	1,493,560	12,940	8,697
Skandia, Stockholm	7,036,392	56,645	30,618
Springfield Fire and Marine	20,571,708	211,220	100,809
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	7,840,574	89,444	36,471
Star Fire, Louisville	432,569	12,890	11,992
State, Liverpool	677,781	5,793	3,640
Sun, London	15,298,210	160,993	103,541
Svea, Gothenburg	2,544,860	30,534	22,254
Teutonia, New Orleans	4,193,111	42,653	25,977
Toledo Fire and Marine, Toledo	97,780	1,487	981
Traders, Chicago	8,052,323	91,862	42,875
Union, Philadelphia	4,649,789	40,908	15,673
Union, London	8,599,345	49,585	25,568
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	5,987,683	56,303	23,776
United States Fire, New York	2,004,541	66,860	31,704
Victoria Fire, New York	575,897	3,456	2,887
Westchester Fire, New York	8,168,658	85,975	42,928
Western, Philadelphia	2,594,183	22,462	19,706
Western, Toronto	10,993,933	90,352	49,322
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York.	5,308,686	56,158	26,060
Totals, 1905	$1,121,163,733	$11,072,466	$6,003,676
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$971,390,516	$9,743,573	$5,097,234
1903	968,436,536	9,871,191	4,542,818
1902	926,223,145	9,614,555	3,811,668
1901	928,781,483	8,690,871	4,215,040
1900	939,856,497	8,752,971	4,153,074
1899	912,670,635	8,554,180	4,649,222
1898	867,151,860	3,325,922	5,019,059
1897	874,571,204	8,826,281	3,000,861
1896	690,349,201	8,241,721	3,669,663
1895	747,464,702	7,981,114	3,342,328
1894	687,413,281	7,648,298	4,645,784
1893	734,321,894	7,713,797	6,943,023
1892	720,240,195	7,340,152	3,779,004
1891	648,573,843	6,375,850	3,774,535
1880 to 1890	6,188,639,710	62,006,185	39,496,941

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 55.6. The percentage in 1905 was 54.2.

Fire Insurance Business in Idaho in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen & Munich F., Aix-la-Chapelle.	$286,236	$7,821	$250
Ætna, Hartford	611,128	15,374	13,052
Agricultural, Watertown	41,000	1,729	938
Alliance, London	179,050	3,819	1,268
American, Boston	12,450	353	------
American, Newark	220,020	2,764	2,788
American Central, St. Louis	428,039	12,120	10,234
American Fire, Philadelphia	356,536	10,129	4,316
Atlas, London	333,201	865	4,926
Austin Fire, Austin	3,250	125	------
Austrian Phœnix, Vienna	37,560	1,054	5
British America, Toronto	186,741	4,723	1,657
Caledonian, Edinburgh	333,418	9,328	5,351
Caledonian American, New York	33,247	696	367
California Fire, San Francisco	10,000	75	------
Citizens, St. Louis	119,920	2,923	1,921
Commercial Union, London	328,735	9,027	7,004
Concordia Fire, Milwaukee	18,875	479	37
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	298,118	7,373	14,787
Continental, New York	332,950	8,757	2,836
Delaware, Philadelphia	6,875	144	------
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	22,475	648	------
Fire Association, Philadelphia	648,306	20,442	16,873
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	1,004,853	24,268	15,715
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	245,862	7,695	2,108
German Alliance, New York	127,001	3,180	2,242
German American, New York	441,689	11,244	6,930
German, Freeport, Ill	147,663	3,551	438
Germania Fire, New York	196,525	5,286	1,252
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia.	59,215	1,516	142
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	230,295	3,856	1,223
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	29,820	580	------
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	399,978	12,277	9,190
Hanover Fire, New York	35,275	1,206	------

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Hartford Fire, Hartford	1,534,936	36,835	25,405
Home, Salt Lake City	1,460,200	23,821	2,533
Home, New York	1,970,817	41,053	18,080
Home F. and M., San Francisco	453,392	11,784	13,032
Indemnity Fire, New York	49,600	1,102	3
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	2,916	134	------
Insurance Co. of North America	450,914	15,235	10,836
Law Union and Crown	152,745	4,946	656
Liverpool and London and Globe	1,337,190	37,258	30,874
London and Lancashire	440,626	11,456	18,521
London Assurance Corporation	328,242	9,421	18,827
Mercantile F. and M., Boston	203,876	5,582	3,045
Michigan F. and M., Detroit	167,775	4,677	3,210
Nassau Fire, New York	14,500	453	------
National Fire, Hartford	446,485	13,823	6,055
National Union, Pittsburgh	184,035	4,825	700
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	162,920	3,981	1,032
New York Fire, New York	15,280	175	------
New Zealand F. and M., Auckland	225,240	5,839	2,359
Niagara Fire, New York	286,512	7,553	10,595
North British and Mercantile, London	526,412	13,864	5,877
Northern, London	624,960	14,363	3,899
North German Fire, New York	11,250	100	------
North River, New York	17,950	488	------
Norwich Union, Norwich	630,665	18,113	4,165
Palatine, London	241,461	5,432	1,500
Pelican, New York	37,653	905	2,295
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	282,848	6,918	2,183
Phenix, Brooklyn	313,329	9,078	4,347
Phœnix, Hartford	348,714	8,530	6,076
Phœnix, London	384,247	10,950	8,150
Providence Washington	129,050	4,585	9,095
Queens, New York	611,601	15,942	6,222
Rochester German, Rochester	120,711	2,996	1,060
Royal, Liverpool	936,536	25,146	19,794
Royal Exchange, London	230,082	6,419	2,088
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	727,728	12,727	2,967
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	298,903	7,375	5,055
Security, New Haven	145,275	3,084	------
Springfield Fire and Marine	293,073	8,688	3,475
Spring Garden Philadelphia	13,073	336	11
Sun, London	315,097	8,196	10,242
Svea, Gothenburg	275,814	8,393	5,036
Toledo Fire and Marine, Toledo	9,000	200	------
Traders, Chicago	245,816	8,027	7,935
Transatlantic, Hamburg	49,648	1,594	430
Union, Liverpool	256,094	8,465	3,556
Victoria, New York	4,750	269	------
Westchester Fire, New York	205,732	5,623	569
Western, Toronto	98,232	3,504	3,016
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	199,032	5,166	1,517
Totals, 1905	$26,239,243	$660,856	$424,191
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$21,518,276	$580,742	$455,562
1903	19,396,838	515,315	205,264
1902	15,721,706	423,771	157,468
1901	15,419,163	342,641	108,086
1900	12,866,251	278,141	107,306
1899	9,823,695	219,310	135,918
1898	9,581,848	191,886	123,719
1897	6,814,198	154,556	100,247
1896	5,975,208	143,458	107,750
1895	6,058,316	147,940	46,564
1894	5,869,874	150,126	179,601
1893	6,574,219	170,858	168,097
1892	7,228,403	200,035	158,042
1891	3,916,490	116,485	52,902
1880 to 1890	14,946,061	417,292	263,555

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 59.4. The percentage in 1905 was 64.2.

Fire Insurance Business in Iowa in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen & Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$1,241,087	$19,384	$19,244
Aetna, Hartford	6,689,127	92,580	77,613
Agricultural, Watertown	1,441,300	20,173	14,599
Allemannia, Pittsburgh	1,417,928	26,173	21,805
American, Boston	550,178	7,370	4,247
American, Newark	6,420,265	84,489	58,418
American Central, St. Louis	1,444,316	19,683	17,711
American Fire, Philadelphia	4,024,750	52,824	33,162
Anchor Fire, Des Moines	7,011,617	190,049	64,481
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	89,375	3,363	4,214
Assurance Co. of America, New York	477,375	4,702	3,903
Atlas, Des Moines	1,222,934	28,367	7,760
Atlas, London	667,695	10,828	31,306
British-America, Toronto	1,507,490	24,769	35,442
British American, New York	423,904	6,609	8,721
Buffalo German, Buffalo	484,625	6,549	1,517
Calumet Fire, Chicago	183,849	3,045	1,776
Capital, Des Moines	8,837,465	189,077	89,288
Century Fire, Des Moines	3,899,404	119,073	33,059
Citizens, St. Louis	1,229,418	19,033	18,075
City of New York, New York	19,500	359	------
Columbia Fire, Omaha	1,500,112	18,074	7,054
Commercial Union, London	2,081,859	29,952	31,619
Concordia, Milwaukee	4,123,484	46,199	34,461
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	2,954,462	44,153	48,549
Continental, New York	16,373,872	178,247	99,015
Delaware, Philadelphia	1,316,920	19,436	19,794
Des Moines, Des Moines	16,635,116	360,664	133,778
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	469,804	6,099	9,299
Dubuque Fire and Marine, Dubuque	4,826,640	63,962	28,820
Eagle Fire, New York	292,041	4,374	1,296
Equitable F. and M., Providence	553,689	6,809	7,728
Farmers, Cedar Rapids	14,475,922	290,868	136,386
Farmers Fire, York, Pa	1,266,708	20,337	17,731
Federal, Jersey City	484,080	4,973	465
Fidelity Fire, Des Moines	2,423,834	50,757	28,423
Fire Association, Philadelphia	3,274,079	52,908	53,936
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	2,772,369	28,752	15,609
Firemen's, Newark	1,230,800	15,039	16,683
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	1,041,675	13,884	13,012
German, Freeport, Ill	24,447,983	290,464	199,285
German Fire, Peoria	1,939,933	36,136	30,192
German, Pittsburgh	683,321	7,834	8,450
German Alliance, New York	1,187,300	18,015	35,020
German-American, New York	6,519,826	81,660	97,770
German National, Chicago	2,178,695	34,815	34,539
Germania Fire, New York	3,734,187	53,880	64,878
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	767,519	10,358	10,337
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	2,458,212	24,972	10,880
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	992,495	16,980	31,820
Hanover Fire, New York	2,565,377	41,395	37,966
Hartford Fire, Hartford	15,062,416	201,377	168,147
Hawkeye, Des Moines	17,598,651	302,089	140,736
Home, New York	14,389,850	140,856	166,700
Home F. and M., San Francisco	471,132	5,433	5,665
Indemnity Fire, New York	111,400	1,921	485
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	88,153	1,617	3,776
Insurance Company of N. America	5,238,496	75,353	40,921
Ins. Company of State of Illinois	722,071	11,471	2,823
Iowa Home, Dubuque	3,826,573	31,845	16,162
Liverpool and London and Globe	10,786,304	88,243	64,807
Liv. and Lon. and Globe, N. Y	231,538	3,595	5,409
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	1,225,808	16,319	16,407
London Assurance Corporation	1,409,344	21,910	13,722
Lumbermen's, Philadelphia	669,573	9,020	12,121
Mechanics, Philadelphia	742,162	10,527	17,156
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	523,721	8,161	6,927
Merchants and Bankers, Des Moines	3,590,729	100,579	26,708
Michigan F. and M., Detroit	------	------	6,274
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	872,259	12,955	15,674
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	4,713,984	77,280	62,963
National Fire, Hartford	6,219,995	86,893	77,824
National Union, Philadelphia	1,642,272	23,236	13,952
National, Allegheny	207,629	2,270	21
Newark Fire, Newark	480,225	6,356	7,450
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	2,412,201	30,526	48,357
New York Fire, New York	172,990	3,153	7,653
Niagara Fire, New York	1,713,646	25,204	33,198
North British and Mercantile	5,658,397	67,975	54,554
Northern, London	2,224,998	35,156	45,243
Northw'n F. & M., Grand Forks, N. D.	------	8,967	813
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	8,000,483	84,823	53,734
Norwich Union, Norwich	1,401,846	23,565	34,893
Orient, Hartford	1,111,317	14,747	19,842
Palatine, London	828,328	12,498	17,078
Pelican, New York	209,225	3,393	6,321
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	3,485,878	45,070	28,141
Phenix, Brooklyn	6,119,661	87,330	66,232
Phœnix, Hartford	4,750,601	58,054	39,468
Phœnix, London	1,167,562	17,648	25,387
Providence Washington, Providence	2,999,772	28,125	36,292
Prussian National, Stettin	1,721,067	17,116	15,494
Queen City Fire, Sioux City	664,577	8,654	1,106
Queen, New York	2,921,889	41,971	47,422
Reliance, Philadelphia	1,425,980	21,826	16,537
Rochester German, Rochester	1,386,614	21,840	14,694
Royal, Liverpool	2,826,585	40,559	53,201
Royal Exchange, London	115,595	2,105	3,046
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	5,148,393	69,255	51,017
Scottish Union and National, Edinb'h.	1,196,890	18,505	28,115
Security, New Haven	2,867,710	31,115	19,600
Security, Davenport	4,693,039	87,544	27,268
Skandia, Stockholm	835,061	5,341	17,870
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	6,435,431	79,694	55,314
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	1,385,535	23,322	19,689
Standard Fire, Canada	2,116,834	40,034	13,182
State, Des Moines	7,494,606	150,050	59,568
State Fire, Liverpool	68,895	1,335	7,679
Sun, London	2,113,794	24,614	18,286
Svea, Gothenburg	492,000	7,491	8,802
Transatlantic, Hamburg	115,450	2,119	------
Toledo F. and M., Toledo	90,750	1,682	------
Traders, Chicago	1,564,753	22,404	42,503
Union, Philadelphia	484,165	5,885	5,813
Union, London	280,814	5,655	28,929
Westchester Fire, New York	2,302,785	35,266	21,805
Western, Toronto	2,951,860	33,772	43,193
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	776,320	11,265	21,912
Totals, 1905	$326,171,493	$5,396,454	$3,853,217

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$326,682,973	$5,212,449	$2,059,953
1903	312,935,801	4,840,390	2,293,009
1902	308,454,555	4,616,688	2,172,915
1901	289,988,535	4,231,526	2,348,046
1900	280,682,253	4,098,490	1,818,600
1899	280,071,272	4,180,790	1,965,221
1898	242,591,231	3,584,937	1,484,080
1897	245,574,905	4,190,681	1,555,252
1896	231,240,598	4,163,479	1,766,280
1895	230,877,520	4,276,884	1,788,722
1894	240,502,602	4,382,011	2,399,440
1893	241,834,384	3,818,708	2,118,857
1892	242,137,418	3,703,513	1,575,681
1891	220,870,002	3,404,762	1,634,563
1880 to 1890	2,105,582,862	31,157,970	12,940,956

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 48.6. The percentage in 1905 was 71.4.

(Continued from page 445.)

company's reserve basis is the 4 per cent. combined, you can therefore easily see how they are juggling with this contract. The policy provides for double indemnity in event of death by accident, and in the case of total disability, total blindness, total deafness, insanity, loss of both arms, loss of both legs, or one hand and one leg, a paid up policy or an annuity payable in ten instalments, one-tenth immediate."

Numerous other practices are cited, such as paying weekly indemnity for illness by certain diseases, padding admitted surplus in compiling statements for the Insurance Department, one company even marking up its real estate over $4,000 to avoid showing too large a decrease in surplus.

It is understood that North Carolina is not the only State which suffers from mushroom fly-by-nights. The legal reserve deposit law, largely responsible for this class of companies, exists in other States, and conditions somewhat similar to those in North Carolina confront the agents there as well. What is most needed now is a united effort on the part of the reliable companies to educate the public up to a realization of the hazards they subject their money to in such concerns as those referred to in "Flute's Fancy," conditions which violate all the fundamental principles of good underwriting and sound finance, and threaten to crucify the very institution which they should promote.

A State agent for the Mutual Benefit Life insurance company comments on "Flute's Fancy" as follows: "There is a rich vein of humor in regard to the name of this document. Mr. W. P. Fife was a notorious speculator. He commenced preaching and got to be a great missionary, and made a great deal of money preaching on the order of Sam Jones and others. A great many people never had any confidence in him, and he went by the name of 'Billy Flute.' After he got rich by preaching he gave it up and is now a great promoter in oil wells in Texas and the West. The papers in North Carolina are filled with full page advertisements almost every week of his wild schemes in regard to fortunes that are made by investing in oil stock."

Life Insurance Medical Examiners Meet at Boston.

The proceedings of the fifty-seventh annual session of the American Medical Association, which took place in Boston this week, was preceded by the seventh annual meeting of the American Association of Life Insurance Examining Surgeons. The latter body voted unanimously that its members should make no examination at a smaller fee than $5.

The program of papers was an exceedingly rich one, and probably more than the average physician could digest and assimilate in a long time. That of the morning session, last Monday, included a symposium on the general subject of medical examination for life insurance from the business standpoint, comprising these topics: "An Undeveloped Field—The Advances That May Be Derived from Making Examinations for Accident Insurance Companies," by Charles H. Harbaugh, medical director American Assurance Company of Philadelphia; "Liability Insurance from a Medical Standpoint," by Frank E. Allard, medical director Boston Mutual Life; "Life Insurance Examiners in Their Relation to the Company," by Frank Wells, medical director John Hancock Mutual Life; "Some Mistakes Made by Life Insurance Examiners," by Dr. George G. McConnel, of Chicago; "Medical Examination as an Exhibit in the Contract," by Dr. W. H. Birchmore, of New York; "Legal Rights and Responsibilities of the Medical Examiner," by Dr. C. L. Steensen, of New York; "To What Extent Should Insurance Organizations Educate Their Insured as to Healthful Living?" by Dr. E. S. Sherrill, of Detroit, Mich.

The program for the afternoon session included papers on "Heredity as a Factor in Life Expectancy," by Dr. J. M. French, of Milford, Mass; "Consanguinity of Parents an Important Consideration in the Hazard of Insured Lives," by Dr. D. H. Keller, of Lexington, Ky.; "Arterial Tension as Affecting Longevity," by Dr. T. D. Crothers, of Hartford, Conn.; "Are Women as Insurable as Men?" by T. Hewson Bradford, medical director Philadelphia Mutual Life; "Relation of Athletics to Longevity," by Dr. R. T. McKenzie, of Philadelphia. There was a symposium on tuberculosis in life insurance, to which contributions were made by Dr. S. A. Knopf, of New York; Dr. Thomas J. Mays, of Philadelphia; Dr. James A. Burroughs, of Asheville, N. C., and Dr. W. N. Hilton, of Waverly, N. Y. Dr. Denslow Lewis, of Chicago, treated the subject of "Moral Hazard." Dr. W. L. Howard, of Baltimore, spoke upon the "Sexual Pervert in Life Insurance"; Dr. George F. Butler, of Chicago, on "Overeating and Its Effects on Longevity"; Dr. H. M. Christian, of Philadelphia, on "Venereal Diseases in Relation to Life Expectancy"; Medical Director Charles H. Willets, of the Provident Life and Trust, on "Albuminuria in Reference to Life Insurance." There were treatises on "Diseases of the Rectum in Relation to Longevity," by Dr. S. G. Gant, of New York; on "Diseases of the Heart," by John Nevins, medical director of the Colonial Life; on the "Physical Examination for the United States Army," by Dr. C. A. Weaton, of Chicago; on "Blood Pressure as a Diagnostic Sign," by Henry W. Cook, medical director Northwestern National Life; on "the Recognition and Importance of Myocardial Diseases," by Dr. C. S. Williamson, of Chicago; on "The Dangers of the Potter's Trade from a Life Insurance Standpoint," by Dr. H. G. Norton, of Trenton, N. J., and Dr. W. W. Pennell, of Mt. Vernon, Ohio, spoke on "Two Factors in Life Insurance—the Medical or Personal History and Family History of the Applicant."

Dr. Wm. J. Mayo, of Rochester, Minn., who was elected president of the American Medical Association on Tuesday,

SPECIAL NOTICE.

SURETY MEN WANTED

We want an experienced man as manager of our Contract Dept. at Home Office. Home Office experience not essential.
Manager for our Contract Dept. in Metropolitan Dept.
Also two experienced men for our Fidelity Dept. at the Home Office; two good solicitors for Fidelity Dept. at Metropolitan Dept.
For capable, ambitious and reliable men an excellent opportunity is offered for future advancement.

Address NATIONAL SURETY COMPANY
WM. B. JOYCE, President 346 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

in his address pointed out that it was a matter of professional pride that in the condemnation of life insurance companies no breath of scandal had touched the medical departments. He expressed his indignation that the physicians, of all men, should have been sacrificed to the newly born passion for economy resulting from the misdeeds of others. He held that a thorough medical examination to prevent fraud by the admission of unsafe risks is essential.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

California.

The following is the full text of a bill passed by the California Legislature at its present extra session:

Sec. 1. Section 597 of "An act in relation to foreign corporations," approved March 12, 1872, is hereby amended by the addition thereto of the following sub-section:

597A. The commissioner has power to, and whenever he deems necessary may, in writing, require any company engaged in insurance business in the State of California to furnish the commissioner, as of a date, passed or present, to be designated by the commissioner, a full and complete list of all policies of insurance on property or risks located within that portion of the State of California included within the territory described by the commissioner, and which policies have not by the terms thereof expired on the date designated by the commissioner. Such list must show the number of the policy, the name in which the policy was issued, the amount for which it was issued, the nature and description of the property on which the policy was written, or the nature of the risk assumed by the company, the location of the property and the residence of the insured, and the form or class of such policy as designated on the policy by the company. The commissioner shall require such list to be accompanied by the several forms of policies so designated and classified by the company and the forms of riders, if any, attached to each particular form of policy. Any company which fails or neglects to furnish such list and forms for the period of ten days from the date of the commissioner's request shall forfeit its right to do business in this State, and the commissioner shall thereupon revoke, in the manner provided in Section 600 of this code, the certificate previously granted such company to do business in this State, and said company shall also be liable to a penalty in the sum of $2,000, for the payment of which penalty suits may be instituted by the commissioner in the name of the people of the State of California, in a court of competent jurisdiction, to recover such penalty or accumulated penalties. Said company shall be liable for said penalty or penalties upon the bond filed by said company, pursuant to Section 623 of the political code.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

QUEEN
Ins. Co. of America.
NEW YORK.

CHARTERED 1866.
Hartford Life Insurance Co.
HARTFORD, CONN.
GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.
Up to date in business methods—in contracts—in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.
$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.
Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.
INVESTIGATE.

WANTED
BY
The Manhattan Life
Insurance Co.
Live, energetic men for some excellent territory. Exclusive and liberal contracts will be made with the proper parties.
The Armstrong Committee found no questionable methods in The Manhattan Life Insurance Company.
Address
W. B. LANE, Vice-Pres.
66 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

1825. THE 1906.
Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

Provident Life and Trust Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.
The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

Insurance Co. of North America,
232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906		$13,015,852
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,389,121	
Capital Stock	3,000,000	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,731	$13,015,852

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.
CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.
Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 12 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Milwaukee.

ASSETS, $151,663,477.29

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1905 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $105.83 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1905:

395 per day in number of Claims Paid.
6,972 per day in number of Policies issued.
$1,502,484 per day in New Insurance Written.
$123,788.29 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.
$77,275.94 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks.	$79,629,477.18
Bonds and Mortgages..	38,062,610.75
Real Estate.....	17,495,905.30
Cash	4,183,912.16
Demand Loans on Collateral	3,747,285.50
Loans to Policyholders.	3,703,554.50
Prem. deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,826,755.63
Accrued Int., Rents, etc.	1,013,976.27
Total	$151,663,477.29

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves.....	$132,705,296.00
All other Liabilities.....	2,776,602.33
Capital and Surplus....	16,181,578.96
Total	$151,663,477.29

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security..... $318,264,084.12

Number of Policies in Force, 8,596,705.

Amount of Outstanding Insurance.....$1,596.509,769.00

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS

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HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice President.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
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W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY

OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

NEW YORK OFFICE:

68 WILLIAM STREET.

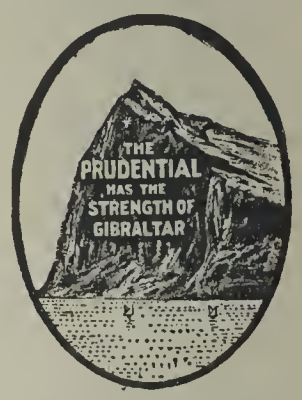
YOUNG MEN MAKE MONEY

There are opportunities to represent a big, sound, up-to-date Life Insurance Company in a profitable manner.

Prudential representatives make money. They have most varied forms of policies and advantageous contracts, with liberal commissions.

The attention of young men, particularly young men starting in business, is especially sought.

Write for full information regarding these unusual opportunities.



THE PRUDENTIAL
INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA
Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey.

JOHN F. DRYDEN, President — Home Office, Newark, N. J.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.
LIMITED,
OF LONDON.
OFFICE:
Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

INCORPORATED 1865.

GERMAN INSURANCE CO.

OF FREEPORT, ILL.

The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1906.....	$6,148,738
Cash Capital.....	200,000
Liabilities, including reinsurance.....	3,996,673
Net Surplus.....	1,952,065

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

The Mutual Benefit LIFE INSURANCE CO.

NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

Assets (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1906.....	$99,127,140
Liabilities	91,548,087
Surplus	7,576,303

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

HANOVER

Agencies
In all the Principal Places
in the United States.

Fire Insurance Company
OF NEW YORK.

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Second Vice-President

32 Nassau Street, New York City

INCORPORATED 1799.

Providence Washington Insurance Company,

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

GERMANIA

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

NEW YORK.

ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE
Cor. William and Cedar Streets.

National Life Insurance Co.

MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Established in 1850. Operating in 44 States.

Joseph A. De Boer, President.
James T. Phelps, Vice-President.
James B. Estee, 2d Vice-President.
Osman D. Clark, Secretary.
H. M. Cutler, Treasurer.
A. B. Bisbee, Medical Director.
C. E. Moulton, Actuary.
F. A. Howland, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1906, and gained during the past decade:

Assets	$34,519,093.04	Gain, 184 per cent.
Surplus	3,821,752.51	Gain, 165 per cent.
Insurance	145,480,904.00	Gain, 109 per cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.
A. H. GSELLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

The Empire State Surety Co.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK
391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

John G. Jenkins, . . . *Chairman*
William M. Tomlins, Jr., . *President*
Edmund H. Driggs, . *Vice-President*
Daniel Stewart, . . . *Secretary*

The Union Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

CAPITAL, - - $200,000

STATEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1906.

Total Assets	$718,168
Total Liabilities	366,834
Surplus to Policyholders	351,334

WILLIAM MUIR, President.
E. R. DANNELS, Secretary.
M. JOS. NOWLAN, Assistant Secretary.

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$50,019,667.03
Liabilities	41,289,151.01
Gross Surplus	8,730,516.02

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.
Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.

United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846–1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.

Bankers Life Insurance Company
of the City of New York.
Foster M. Voorhees, President.
Issues the most liberal policies,
Offers the best renewal contracts to Agents of
Standing and Responsibility.
For particulars apply
Home Office, 31 Nassau St., N.Y. City.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N.Y.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$2,960,364
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,603,103
Joint Stock Capital	500,000

London Assurance Corporation,

CHARTERED A. D. 1720.

Surplus in United States January 1, 1906, $857,681.75.

CHAS. LYMAN CASE, Manager.

61 Pine Street, NEW YORK.

The Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation

(LIMITED),

OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

Total Available Resources, over $8,000,000

$2,661,516.09 deposited in the United States for the benefit of United States Policyholders.

SAMUEL APPLETON, United States Manager,
Employers' Liability Building, 33 Broad Street, Boston, Mass.

EDMUND DWIGHT,
Resident Manager for New York State,
76 William Street, New York.

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1906. No. 24.

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THE labors of District Attorney Jerome's special grand jury, which appear to have been specially strenuous and exacting, have been productive of the indictment of but two persons, Robert A. Granniss and Walter R. Gillette, formerly vice presidents of the Mutual Life insurance company. It is announced that not enough evidence was found to implicate ex-President McCurdy in the offenses charged against the indicted ex-officials, which are forgery in the third degree against both, and perjury also against Dr. Gillette. The entire sum of their wrongdoing, as set forth in the indictments, was active connivance in the means by which money intended for legislative purposes was concealed. The employment of the company's funds to prevent injurious legislation, to buy off blackmailing political strikers and pay legal expenses in this work, was necessarily secret in its operation, and it was covered up by the device of false entries on the books of the company for printing, stationery and advertising supplies. It does not appear that the indicted officials profited one dollar personally by these transactions. No one who knows these gentlemen would for a moment suspect them of personal dishonesty. Indeed the presentment of the special grand jury contains the saving clause that the money was "probably applied to uses thought to be for the benefit of the company." Messrs. Granniss and Gillette are the victims of a system, a vicious and foolish one, it may be admitted, but one that they found in working order when they became officials of the company, and one which has been in practice in all other large corporations liable to the assaults of corrupt persons whom a supine people send to the legislatures to participate in making their laws. In the long legal contest which is to follow these indictments, it is going to be difficult for the prosecution to show that the accused officials did not act within the discretion allowed them by the trustees of the company, who were themselves elected by the policyholders with practically plenary powers accorded by the company's charter.

THE insurance adjustment situation in San Francisco is unparalleled. Similar conditions have never before been presented. According to universal local testimony, on April 18 there was an earthquake in that city which shook down buildings and, after the manner of earthquakes in closely built cities, did great damage. According to insurance loss claimants, backed by the local press and the State Insurance Department, there was practically no earthquake. Mr. H. F. Atwood, of the Rochester German, who is in San Francisco as the chairman of the fire underwriters' adjustment committee of fifteen, says: "It may be considered as an extraordinary thing that in the first 2,000 claims submitted to insurance men in San Francisco after the fire, every man filing a claim swore that his property was uninjured by the earthquake." There are hundreds of photographs in the possession of the underwriters showing fallen buildings uninjured yet by fire, which if they are not genuine are evidence of extraordinary inventive facilities afforded by the photographic art. The situation resolves itself into this: On the one hand are the insurance companies standing on their contracts, which compel them to pay losses by fire and forbid them to pay losses by other causes, and on the other a furious and clamorous public insisting on the recognition of the face values in their policies, a hostile press insinuating that the insurance men ought to be consigned to the State penitentiary, and an insurance commissioner threatening to revoke licenses and call upon the departments of other States to do the same. Under the circumstances the companies have two courses to pursue. One is to hold to their contracts and let the United States Courts decide if they must pay on hazards against which they did not insure. The other is to waive their legal rights if the loss claimants will meet them in the spirit of reasonable compromise. The great fire insurance corporations of the United States and Europe have borne a historic reputation for fair and generous dealing with their insured. They demonstrated it at Chicago, at Boston, at Baltimore, and over and over again throughout the world. Self-interest induces this course, if not moral conviction. Never before have they come up against a community grasping for more than its lawful due as they have in that of San Francisco. They are denounced as "dishonest" by their detractors, for standing by their contracts. A candid world will decide that the dishonesty lies in a people who attempt to hold them up for what they do not owe. A New York daily paper, the *Times*, recognizes the equitable position of the companies when it says of the compromise proposition:

> Since the proposal is not compulsory upon cases where 100 per cent. liability is perfectly clear and recoverable, and since everybody is left to his judgment as to which class his case falls in, we fail to see how the companies are open to criticism for their procedure. It may be poor business policy, and those who are more liberal in paying even claims which might be defended are perhaps sure of their reward in future business. But that is a business consideration, apart from the merits of the proposal itself.

"IT takes courage to deliberately breast the popular current," and that is a brave man up in Syracuse who, while the fury rages, scathingly rebukes the readiness to blacken the leaders in our industrial activities. Chancellor Day is speaking of the "scandalmongering" in connection with the beef slaughtering business in Chicago, but his words apply with equal pertinence to another business which has been under newspaper ban for more than a year, with as little reason for inconsiderate and ex-

travagant vituperation. Although what follows is a long extract, it is worth the space in a time like this:

A man writes a book or publishes a series of magazine articles and makes frantic effort to have a condition of frenzy created that will sell his foul smelling pages to a people delirious with the fever of sensationalism. If what such a scandalmonger says were a hundredth part true the people would be dying by the tens of thousands from the poisons of the meats they eat, or the doctors are all mistaken about the toxic effect of such putrid things.

But there are hundreds of thousands who never ask a question or apply the simplest analysis to any charge. A scare line in a yellow paper is equivalent to the verdict of a jury, and the people upon the verdict pronounce sentence of damnation.

This is the epoch we are in. Nothing is right. Everything is wrong. Everybody is bad except the accusers. Everybody seems to be on the verge of being drawn into the filth and slime of defamation or the deadly firedamp of suspicion. Committees are sent out to bring back shocking things, and if they come back without them, others are sent with more sensitive olfactories. Those whose judicial temperament unfits them for hysteria are threatened with dismissal or branded as remiss in duty. The people who wait for both sides of the case are tools of trusts.

How long can a nation endure such a condition of things? They threaten the stability of all forms of business and create universal distrust. Shall we publish to the world that we have no courts for the correction of evils, but that we must leave such things to magazine writers and the makers of sensational literature and the investigation of smelling committees who are seeking things to condemn, and to special executive message to be read by all nations, while the protesting voice of the accused for justice is overwhelmed and drowned in the roar of a popular frenzy, and sentence is pronounced by the ex parte verdict of the press?

This epoch of scandalmongering will stand to our shame and to mark that strong, spasmodic frenzy which arouses people in most unaccountable ways—something akin to that which causes panic when people throw aside will and reason and courage and destroy themselves when some danger is exaggerated by an excited shout of alarm.

Our hope is in the solid, sober, Christian substratum of intelligent thinking which ever has been and ever will be the security of our institutions and the hope of our land. God has the making of us as a people, and in God we will put our trust, and we will—as we must, if this mighty fabric holds together—have confidence in men.

"Confidence in men!" Its destruction is the stock in trade of the raiders for the control of the assets of life insurance companies, and the daily papers abetting them.

Facts and Opinions.

The results of the examination of the affairs of the **Empire State Surety Company** of New York, by the New York Insurance Department, a report of which made public this week showed an impairment of the company's capital to the extent of $55,056, were the talk of the week in casualty circles. This was the showing at the end of the fiscal year ending December 31, 1905. The examiners criticise severely the bookkeeping methods of the company, stating that on account of this fact it was impossible to reconcile the annual report with the company's books. Assets of $895,711 were shown, as against $1,698,218 given in the annual statement, and the $55,056 impairment, as against a net surplus of $121,974, claimed in the statement. The report finds fault with the method used in setting down the transaction by which the Empire State Surety reinsured in January 16, 1905, the outstanding risks of the City Trust, Safe Deposit and Surety Company of Philadelphia. Under a memorandum filed with the report, Insurance Commissioner Kelsey calls attention to the fact that at a meeting of the stockholders on June 5 it was voted to increase the capital stock from $500,000 to $750,000, as approved by the department, and that this increased capital will be paid in on or before June 30, to be subscribed for at a premium of 50 per cent., so as to add $250,000 of capital and $125,000 of surplus. The security afforded by the arrangement was perfectly satisfactory to the companies holding reinsurances with the Empire State, according to sentiments expressed by surety company officers in conference. A notice has been sent to the stockholders of the Empire State Surety, signed by the members of the executive committee, and stating that "the directors have agreed themselves to underwrite the entire new stock about to be issued, or such portion thereof as shall not be taken by the stockholders of the company." In this statement the assets are given as $1,121,495.17; reserve and surplus, $402,032.33, and liabilities, including capital, $719,462.84. The members signing are John G. Jenkins, William M. Tomlins, Jr., Walter V. Crawford, Edmund H. Driggs, William D. Veeder, Frank Jenkins and Hugo Hirsh.

How to prevent the recurrence of **disastrous cotton fires** is agitating fire underwriting minds in New York at the present time, especially after this week's fire, the third in the metropolis within a short period, at the American dock stores on Staten Island. As it is, several companies have ceased writing on cotton in the metropolitan district, and their course will undoubtedly be followed by others, until such time as the Exchange raises the rates. In the *Journal of Commerce* this week the suggestions of a well known cotton merchant are set forth in the line of prevention. Commenting on the rate of 20 cents prevailing in the South, as compared with those of 75 cents or 1½ per cent. in the North, reference is made to the so called "spark exposure" to which baled cotton is liable in transit. In the South, where the rates are so low, the cotton is stored in one story "standard warehouses" without skylight, built of brick, with floors of dirt and equipped with sprinklers. On the other hand in the North, cotton after being exposed to sparks on the wharves at both ends of the journey and on board vessels, is stored in warehouses used, as a rule, for other purposes, and frequently it is stored with hemp, regarded by some as more inflammable than cotton. To get over these conditions the merchant quoted recommended the covering with tarpaulins of cotton in transit on lighters, the limitation of warehouses to a capacity of 1,000 bales, the inspection of the bales separately before being placed in the storehouse, and the policing of the warehouses, which should be "standard" ones, both day and night. The Commercial Union, of London and New York, and the Palatine, of London, have stopped writing lines on cotton in the metropolitan district, while the North River, Nassau, Peter Cooper, Empire City, Jefferson of Philadelphia and the Aachen and Munich are cutting their local cotton lines in half. No more cotton will be written by Blagden, Kelly & Fuller till rates are raised or independent rates high enough to warrant writing are offered.

At the second annual meeting of the General Managers' Association of the **Phœnix Mutual Life insurance company** at Hartford on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week, President Jules Girardin, of Chicago, presided, and President Holcombe, of the company; W. C. Johnson, general agent for New York city; First Vice President Moore, Second Vice President Welch, George C. Miles, Medical Director Morgan, H. H. Kohn, C. E. Fish and others made addresses. President Holcombe, discussing the theory and practice of the finance of life insurance, applied them to the company which he directs, and said:

The largest item of assets is that of mortgages on real estate. The interest receipts on this item, although the rate has been diminishing for many years, have never been as low as 5 per cent. upon the amount outstanding. These loans number about 8,000, and but one foreclosure has been necessary in the past three years. The real estate owned by the company, including its home office building, amounted on January 1 to about $640,000. Since then sales of $50,000 have been made. A careful appraisal was made within the past year of the various pieces, and book values were adjusted accordingly. A list of stocks and bonds has already been published, and it is sufficient to say that the market value placed upon these in the company's statement exceeds the cost by about $200,000. Another appraisal of these items exceeds the company's estimates by more than $50,000. The liabilities are calculated at different rates of interest, the old business at 4 per cent. and the new at 3 per cent. Taken as a whole the interest requirement is about 3.75 per cent. The interest receipts of the company last year amounted to 5 per cent. on its reserve, so that there

is a safe margin, in fact, over and above that adopted in calculating the liabilities. This is an added source of strength which does not appear in any statement of surplus. The company keeps two bank accounts, one in Hartford and one in New York, and interest is received in both on daily balances. Both in safety and productiveness the assets of this company will compare favorably with those of any other similar institution, and this feature of the business will be more and more appreciated as the public become better and better educated as to what life insurance means.

The secretary of the **"International Policyholders' Committee,"** which is the official name of the Bowles-Untermyer-Lawson combination, has written a letter for advertising purposes to President Peabody, of the Mutual Life, stating that the office of the committee is "flooded" with inquiries from policyholders of the company, as to whether it has spent $100,000 of the policyholders' money in printing in the newspapers the statement entitled "The Truth About the Mutual," for the purpose of defending the present officials. The secretary says that he wants to know from Mr. Peabody if he can deny this statement. Of course the secretary does not want to know anything of the kind. His open letter to the president is a "put up job" for campaign purposes. The anti-administration newspapers, in the pay of the combination, eagerly give it free circulation. President Peabody's reply to the secretary is as follows:

MY DEAR SIR—Your letter of the 9th inst., which appeared in the newspapers some time before it reached this office, has at last arrived. I regret that you have been troubled with letters of inquiry which were intended for this company. If you will suggest to the policyholders from whom your "office" is being "flooded" with inquiries to address the company direct, I have no doubt I can answer them satisfactorily. Certainly I shall not refuse them any information to which they may be entitled, but it must be apparent that I cannot answer all the anonymous communications which reach me. Yours very truly, CHARLES A. PEABODY.

Samuel Untermyer, counsel for the so called committee, has now taken a hand in the correspondence, and writes Mr. Peabody, threatening to hold him personally responsible "for the money expended in these transparent efforts" to conduct his campaign "at the expense of the policyholders."

Rates are to be **advanced** at once **in the West** by fire insurance companies on a number of classes which have been persistently unprofitable. A special from Chicago to the *Journal of Commerce* says:

The increases are to be added to all renewals of existing policies and all new business in those classes. The rise in rates, while made as a result of the San Francisco losses, is based entirely upon the experience of the companies for the past five years up to January 1, and does not include the San Francisco losses. The companies have known that the classes were being carried at a loss, but under existing conditions of competition could not secure co-operation necessary to make the advances. With the critical conditions imposed by the San Francisco losses they felt that the time had come to make the lines of business pay their own losses, instead of being carried, as they have been, by the lines which were paying adequate rates. The statistical department of the Western Union has been working on the unprofitable classes for several weeks, and has a list of over fifty.

In these unprofitable classes upon which advances will be made are colleges and schools, churches, boots and shoes, elevators and contents, flour, feed and grist mills, furniture, chair, coffin, plain and billiard table factories, merchandise, wholesale and retail, including wholesale groceries, metal workers, including machine shops and foundries, mining risks, packing houses, paper mills, saw mills and summer hotels. These advances will be made at once on all rates on these classes. New schedules are being prepared for them in which the increases will be permanently absorbed. Additional lists, including many of the smaller classes, will be issued within a few weeks.

In the investigation being made by the Wisconsin committee of the affairs of the **Union Central Life of Cincinnati,** the only witness this week was Secretary Marshall, and the principal point brought out was the control of the stock of the company by President Pattison and his relatives. The following list of stockholders was read into the record:

John M. Pattison, president, 852½ shares; A. E. Pattison, 5; Ernestine Pattison, 5; John W. Pattison, 5; total owned by Pattison family, 867½.

O. C. Williams, brother-in-law of Pattison, 50 shares; P. E. Williams, 150; W. G. Williams' estate, 250; total owned by Williams family, 450.

John W. Clark, 350 shares; Carrie M. Clark, 298¾; Fannie J. Clark, 75; total owned by Clark family, 723¾.

Fannie C. Davis, 605 shares; Lydia Davis, 12½; Lydia C. Davis, 58; C. W. Davis, 100; total owned by Davis family, 776½.

Eliza Sage, 733¾ shares; John D. Sage, 100; total owned by Sage family, 833¾.

R. S. Rust, 125 shares; R. H. Rust, 150; R. F. Rust, 50; total owned by Rust family, 325.

Virginia Wright, 30 shares; Clifford B. Wright, 25; total owned by Wright family, 55.

Mr. Marshall testified that the Williams and Davis families were related to the Pattison family by marriage. He claimed that the stock was closely held so that it might always be in the hands of those who have the company's interests at heart. He admitted that the bylaws prohibited the transfer of stock to any person not acceptable to the other stockholders.

The members of the **Boston Board of Fire Underwriters** turned out in force to attend last Tuesday's meeting, at which the report of the executive committee regarding an **advance in rates** was on the calendar. The report was adopted, and after a two hours' session, in which the methods of advance were thoroughly debated, it was voted to increase premiums 15 per cent. in the city proper, which may be roughly described as the peninsula bounded by the water front as far as a line running through the centre of Massachusetts avenue. From this increase dwelling and apartment houses, with or without stores and private stables appurtenant thereto, are exempted. A determined, but unsuccessful, effort was made to include sprinklered risks and "first class" buildings in this exemption. A plan to add the South Boston, East Boston, Charlestown and part of the Roxbury water fronts to "Boston proper" for insurance purposes was postponed, it not being deemed advisable to take action thereon as long as the companies are allowing the long pending and vexatious commission question to hang fire. On Wednesday afternoon the board convened again, in special meeting, and voted to have the advance apply at 2:15 p. m. that day, with the proviso that policies expiring in June may be renewed at existing rates, if written in the offices of the companies which originally issued them.

Plate glass interests in the metropolitan district put their heads together at the office of the Metropolitan Casualty Company Thursday afternoon, and decided to stop the disastrous rate cutting, which proved suicidal, and to restore the former manual of rates, beginning July 1. The organization will be known as the **Plate Glass Underwriters' Association.** The advance of 40 per cent. in the price of plate glass in the past year was a factor in the important result. A standard form of policy was discused, and the following committee named to prepare a draft of one: President Eugene H. Winslow, Metropolitan Casualty; President W. T. Woods, Lloyds Plate Glass; President Major A. White, New York Plate Glass; President William M. Tomlins, Jr., Empire State Surety; Secretary Robert J. Hillas, Fidelity and Casualty, and Secretary John H. Sell, People's Surety Company. The same committee will revise the rates. The companies not in the agreement of March 10, 1905, are all in the new agreement. Those in the compact are the Ætna Indemnity, Casualty Company of America, Central Accident of Pittsburgh, Empire State Surety, Fidelity and Casualty, Lloyds Plate Glass, Maryland Casualty, Metropolitan Casualty, New Amsterdam

Casualty, New Jersey Plate Glass, New York Plate Glass, People's Surety and Philadelphia Casualty.

Companies engaged in writing **sprinkler leakage insurance** are busy investigating the causes of the numerous collapses of tanks reported from various parts of the country. On June 8 a steel tank on the grocery store of John Fite in Pittsburgh, containing 20,000 gallons, fell through the roof, doing no little damage to the property and fatally injuring three people. The collapse of the tank on the Adams dry goods store in New York, closely following one at Proctor, Tenn., on the Cumberland Manufacturing Company's building, has also served to make the underwriters get busy. Careful inspections are what are needed most in nearly every case. Where flat hoops are used the inspections should be more frequent, because there is more surface on which corrosion can take place than on the round hoops. Joints especially should receive careful inspection—preferably a temporary hoop should be put in place and the joint on the permanent hoop taken apart and carefully examined, as the parts which are hidden from view are invariably the weakest points in the hoop joints. The giving away of supports for the tank is a more difficult accident to guard against, as it is caused sometimes by the gradual and almost imperceptible settling of the fire wall, or else by some defect in the materials used for the support.

The **National Association of Casualty and Surety Agents** sprang into life at Chicago on Tuesday during a meeting of general and local agents at the Grand Pacific Hotel. George H. Russell, of Milwaukee, was chosen temporary chairman and W. C. Grigsby, of the *Insurance Field*, of Louisville, secretary. The late Robert S. Brannen, of Denver, who fathered the organization, was honored by the adoption of appropriate resolutions. Discussion of the present chaotic conditions in the casualty and surety world, in which overhead writing and rate cutting are prevalent, was heard, and organization by the agents was favored as being the most effective means of bettering existing conditions. Officers were elected as follows: Harry M. Coudrey, St. Louis, president; Thomas S. Dugan, Louisville, secretary. The brief platform adopted reads:

The purpose of the meeting is to form an association for the promotion of correct principles and honest methods and determine opposition to bad practices in casualty and surety underwriting. To these ends it will welcome the co-operation and support of the representatives of all companies and company organizations.

The tenth annual meeting of the **Alabama Fire Underwriters' Association** was held at Birmingham June 7 and 8, when the following officers and executive committee were elected: President, R. H. Mabry, of Selma; vice president, Henry B. Scott, of New Decatur; secretary and treasurer, E. Moore, Birmingham; executive committee, R. F. Manly, J. E. Davidson, D. L. Batre, S. L. Crook and W. F. Fitts. Addresses were made during the meeting by George T. Sage, of Mobile, on "Ethics of the Fire Insurance Business"; Henry B. Scott, of Decatur, on "Duties and Obligations of Agents in the Present Crisis of the Fire Insurance Business," and Leopold Strauss, of Montgomery, on "The Agent's Duties to His Customers." Mr. Crook introduced the following resolution, which was adopted after a heated discussion:

It is the sense of the Alabama Fire Underwriters' Association that when an agent places insurance in a reputable company or companies and said company or companies should fail from a disaster which in no way involves the honesty of the management, the loss of unearned premium should fall upon the assured, and not upon the agent.

The report of the directors of the **Norwich Union Fire** for the year ending December 31, 1905, states that the net premium income for the year amounted to £1,169,568. The losses (paid and outstanding) were £575,289, being 49.19 per cent. of the premiums. After setting aside one-third of the premiums (£389,856) as a reserve against liabilities on policies not run off, the balance at the credit of profit and loss account, including the unappropriated balance, £275,606, brought forward from the previous year, was £498,241, out of which the dividends have been paid. The undivided balance, amounting to £443,241, was carried forward. With regard to the San Francisco disaster, in April of the present year, the society has a clause in its policies protecting it against fire losses occasioned by or through earthquake, and, further, in any event would be able, without encroaching upon its capital and reserves, to meet out of the balance at the credit of profit and loss at the end of 1905 all possible commitments in the area devastated by the recent calamity.

A change has been made in the management of the accident and liability department of the **Ætna Life's New York office** in the Continental Building, 46 Cedar street, New York. Sterling, French & Sterling, who have controlled the accident department for several years, have retired from the management, the change taking effect the first of the present month. They will continue in the offices of the Ætna's accident and liability department on the seventh floor of the Continental Building, and will write for the company and do a general brokerage business as formerly, but at their own request they have been relieved of the duties incumbent on them as managers. As noted some weeks ago, the status of the office has been changed of late, the New York office having been made a branch office, with William J. Gardner in charge as resident secretary of the accident and liability department. Policies are issued and adjustments now made from the New York branch office.

The recent heavy **loss on the Armour grain elevator** at Chicago **and the Armour packing house** at East St. Louis have recalled attention to the remarkable loss record of the Armour concerns. Notwithstanding the fact that their moral hazard is unquestioned and the physical hazard of their plants is kept up to the highest standard, they have been particularly unfortunate in the matter of heavy losses, and the insurance companies have paid more money to them than to any other single interest in the United States. The Armours, through their packing plants, grain elevators and fertilizer works, are estimated to pay out over a half million a year in fire insurance premiums. The packers disburse enormous amounts for premiums, the Nelson Morris Company, which ranks fourth among the packers, and which has no grain or other outside interests, paying $275,000 a year.

An announcement from the office in Philadelphia of President Charles A. Hexamer, of the **National Fire Protection Association,** states the organization will urge the authorities of the large cities of the country to pass ordinances adopting improved building codes in line with recommendations of the National Board of Fire Underwriters. Automatic sprinklers, private water supplies and other safeguards are recommended for the congested districts to check sweeping fires. The association calls attention to the much greater cost per capita of fires in the United States, as compared to that of foreign countries, and to the fact that the fire waste continues uninterruptedly, while public protection has not increased proportionately with building operations. The association appeals to all the interests involved to help the work by the adoption of approved building appliances, and by safeguarding the hazards of occupancy.

A verdict was given last week **for C. W. Rilling,** the Chicago insurance agent, who sued the New York Life to recover commissions on a policy. The verdict was for $4,969. He had previously been given a verdict for $5,800, which went to the Illinois Supreme Court, and was set aside because Rilling had afterward submitted the same application to the Equitable Life, which the Supreme Court construed as an abandonment of his efforts with the New York Life. Rilling's application was on the life of George P. Braun, a wealthy butterine manufacturer, who died last year. The New York Life refused his application for $100,000, but offered him a sub-standard policy, which he declined. Later the company issued a policy to Braun, through another agent, under the Rilling application, whereupon Rilling sued for his commissions. A new trial was asked for.

A fourth vice president of the **National Surety Company** was elected at a meeting of the board of directors on Wednesday in the person of Mr. Joel Rathbone, formerly vice president of the Lawyers' Surety Company, who has been managing the court bond department of the National at 62 Liberty street, New York. Mr. Harry D. King, superintendent, was promoted to the post of third assistant secretary. A consolidation was effected of the executive and finance committees of the company, and Mr. William H. Taylor, first vice president of the Bowling Green Trust Company, was elected chairman of the executive committee. The other members of this committee are: Marshall S. Driggs, Edwin Gould, S. R. Bertrom, F. Q. Brown, John G. Jenkins, James McMahon, Samuel Sloan, Jr., and William B. Joyce, president, ex-officio.

The New York News-Letter, the company paper of the New York Life insurance company, has been discontinued, after thirty-nine years of honorable existence. It was started in March, 1868, and has had as editors J. R. Gilmore, Julius Wilcox and James M. Hudnut. The latter took charge February 1, 1875, and has made the monthly a notable publication. In uttering farewell to his readers the editor says:

All forms of parting words with which we are familiar contain some reference to the future. Whether we say *vale* (be strong), or *au revoir*, or *auf wiedersehen* (until we meet again), or *adieu* (I commend you to God), or good-bye (God be with you)—all express good wishes for the future. And the future—is that unsealed book for whose unfolding the *News-Letter* has always urged its readers to prepare, that the innocent and the helpless may not suffer, and that the worn and weary may find well earned repose. So may it be with all our readers.

At the monthly meeting of the **New York Fire Insurance Exchange** on Wednesday the plan to change the agreement regarding the arbitration committee was tabled, on motion of President Shallcross, who left the chair to read the proposed amendment. One adverse vote would have killed the measure, which was defeated by three negative votes two years ago. The idea was to reorganize the committee on the basis of an annual election restricted to the executive officers of companies and chief agents, thus doing away with the rotation in office idea, which has tended to place new and untried men on this important committee. The opponents of the amendment claim that the election of chief officers for a year would incline to centralize the control of the Exchange to a dangerous extent.

The Wisconsin Legislative Investigating Committee summoned the officers of the **Michigan Mutual Life insurance company** to Milwaukee to be examined. President Looker replied that he would furnish any documents desired, but none of the officers would go there. The general agent of the company in Wisconsin was called to the stand and subjected to a sharp overhauling by the counsel for the committee. Not being an actuary he was unable to answer some questions, but he was asked others, such as "Does not the conduct of your officers in refusing to come here indicate that they are conducting their business dishonestly?" This outrageous procedure was permitted by the committee, which is evidently working for sensational effects.

An echo of **the insurance conspiracy of the Mexican border,** for which C. F. Richardson, alias Leslie E. Hurlburt, a former Rochester lawyer, and two companions, William Mason and Dr. C. F. Harle, were convicted in the courts of Mexico of conspiring to defraud the New York Life by poisoning with strychnine two Americans, Harry Mitchell, Hurlburt's brother-in-law, and James Devers, on whom was insurance of $25,000, was heard in Buffalo this week. A traveling salesman, D. Witt, recently returned from Mexico, says he saw Hurlburt shot to death in accordance with the death penalty meted out by the court. All three of the men were sentenced to be shot at Chihuahua. The crime for which they were convicted occurred in the fall of 1902.

A Milwaukee press dispatch says that the entire business of the **Equitable Life Assurance Society,** with all its world wide ramifications, may be held up, if the Wisconsin courts act favorably on an application made on Tuesday by Albert Ellinger for an order directing the society to produce its books and memoranda covering the period between March 1, 1884, and March 11, 1904, in Milwaukee, for examination. Ellinger alleges that by reason of extravagance he was paid several thousand dollars less than was due him on a twenty year policy, and that for the court to decide if more is due the books will have to be brought into court. Actuary Joel G. VanCise makes affidavit that such an order would suspend the business of the Equitable.

In Chicago Mrs. Frances Eaton Briot Burnett has been given a verdict for $3,327.28 **against the Union Central Life,** on the policy on the life of her former husband. He took out insurance and gave four notes in payment for the first premium. When the notes fell due the insured was unable to meet them, and gave the agent an order on money he expected to receive from a judgment. This judgment was not paid, and shortly afterward the insured died and his widow tendered payment on the notes. Receipt of money was refused, but the assured claimed that the agent had agreed to allow the expected judgment to stand as an extension on the notes. The jury rendered the usual verdict against the company. The case will be appealed.

On the **committee of award for the Ben Calif Loving Cup and Ben Williams Vase,** of the National Association of Life Underwriters, the name of Miles Menander Dawson has been replaced by that of Dr. J. E. Harry, professor of Greek literature at the University of Cincinnati and dean of the College of Liberal Arts of that place. The committee as approved is composed of the following: Edson P. Rich, chairman, general counsel of the Union Pacific Railroad at Omaha, Neb.; B. R. Meyer, professor of political economy and insurance at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and Mr. Harry. As previously announced, the essay subject is: "The Relation of the Public Press to American Life Insurance."

Another circular was issued to the **British policyholders of the Mutual Life** on Saturday last by J. H. H. Hogge, the new general manager for the United Kingdom. It gives the new official appointments, the names of the company's new legal advisers, the trustees, the company's investments and liabilities, &c. Mr. Hogge reminds the policyholders that the trans-

ference of their policies would result in no loss to the Mutual and must remunerate the office to which the transfer is made, while the inevitable loss would fall upon the holder alone. He advises the Mutual policyholders to consult the Mutual if they are approached by representatives who have been induced to accept positions with a British company.

Notice is given of the intention of David A. Boody, Edward M. Grout, Timothy L. Woodruff, William G. Gilmore, Walter Gibb, Elijah R. Kennedy, John B. McDonald, contractor; Lewis Stern, of Stern Brothers; R. A. C. Smith, president of the American Mail Steamship Company; George H. Southard, president of the Franklin Trust Company; Robert B. Woodward and others to organize the **General Fire insurance company of New York,** with $250,000 capital and $250,000 surplus. The intention is to advance the capital and surplus to $1,000,000 as soon as the business warrants. Elijah R. Kennedy, of Weed & Kennedy, will be president of the new company.

The **United States Guarantee Company** carried a small bond on Wheelock Harvey, the messenger who disappeared from the First National Bank with cash, checks and drafts amounting to about $200,000. What the amount of the bond was the company would not state, except that it was a small one. A general alarm has been sent out for Harvey, and the Guarantee Company is searching for him. Meanwhile checks and drafts, which Harvey is alleged to have taken, are beginning to come back from various parts of the country. It is said that the loss to the bank will be small. Bank messengers are usually bonded at from $2,000 to $5,000.

In an article in the *American Underwriter,* Mr. E. E. Rhodes, the mathematician of the Mutual Benefit Life insurance company, comments on the **effects of the Armstrong legislation** thus:

After the passage of the Armstrong bills Mr. Hughes made the significant remark that the Legislature sits every year to correct mistakes. The unfortunate part of it is that the evils resulting from unwise legislation cannot be undone. Such legislation may and doubtless will be repealed; but in the meantime much mischief has been done which the repeal cannot correct. For evils done by individuals there is accountability; for evils resulting from unwise legislation there is not. In the final analysis it will be found that better men and not more laws are what is needed in the insurance business, as elsewhere. Character, not law, must govern.

The usual **Fourth of July orders for the protection of life and property** have been promulgated by the New York Fire Insurance Patrol, and will be circulated in a few days. Work on the quarters for the new patrol, to be known as No. 7, to be located at 135 Norfolk street, will be pushed as rapidly as possible pending the settlement of prices for remodeling the building for its new purpose. The location just off Rivington street is a particularly handy one for the new salvage corps, which is intended to relieve Nos. 1 and 2, located in Murray and Great Jones streets respectively, from covering the lower east side.

Although the **Atlanta-Birmingham** has withdrawn from all territory east of the Rockies, President Dargan is emphatic in his declaration that the company has not repudiated its San Francisco claims. This false report arose from the fact that the company found it advisable to cancel all policies outstanding in the stricken city. Its course regarding the settlement of losses there has not yet been decided upon. The advice of its counsel, who has spent two months on the Coast and has kept in close touch with the San Francisco situation, will have much to do with the decision.

The **American Fire insurance company of New York,** through Frank Lock, Treadwell Cleveland, R. J. Cross, Henry S. Redmond, Welding Ring, Giles K. Tinker and Joseph Froggatt, its directors, on Wednesday applied to the New York Supreme Court for voluntary dissolution, and Justice Giegerich set down the order to show cause for September 14. The assets amount to $210,402. There are no creditors. The company ceased to transact active business on June 28, 1901, having reinsured its outstanding risks in the Hartford Fire insurance company.

The National Surety Company has settled **its loss on the Gleason contract** for the erection of the buildings of the Illinois insane asylum at Bartonville, at $30,000. The Gleasons failed and the asylum commissioners completed the contract and entered suit for $56,000 against the surety company, under the bond. A judgment was secured for this amount, and the National offered $20,000 in settlement, while the State stood for $30,000. The case has been pending for several years, but the surety company has now conceded the $30,000 figure.

The Insurance Commissioner of Minnesota is not pleased with the premature publication of the **report of Fire Marshal Peterson,** in which he makes the claim that the Minnesota rates are unjust, because they are above the average of the rest of the country, ignoring the Minnesota hazard. Commissioner O'Brien explains the figures by showing that a large proportion of the premiums are in the large cities of St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth, and that the conditions differ radically in the northern and southern portions of the State.

The three indicted **officers of the Mutual Reserve Fund,** Frederick A. Burnham, president; George Burnham, Jr., and George D. Eldridge, vice presidents, appeared before Judge Cowing in General Sessions on Tuesday and pleaded not guilty to five indictments for grand larceny and forgery which have been found against each. Their pleas were entered through ex-Assistant District Attorney William Rand, Jr., following a denial by Recorder Goff of a motion to quash the indictments. No date has yet been fixed for the trials.

Some time ago the **Guardian Life of Kansas City** was licensed as a stipulated premium company by the Missouri Insurance Department, and made its deposit of $5,000. That the concern had a short life is evident from the fact that at the present time only a few policies are outstanding, and the premiums collected from the policyholders in nearly all cases have been returned. Report has it that Messrs. Bowman and Halbert, the "men behind," have abandoned the undertaking.

The Washington State Insurance Department has issued the following statement concerning the **Mutual Reserve Life insurance company:**

The Insurance Commissioner has received evidence that the Mutual Reserve Life insurance company of New York is violating the anti-rebate law of the State. Upon securing this evidence, and acting in conjunction with the Attorney General's department, the Insurance Commissioner is taking immediate steps to prosecute the company under the law for violating the anti-rebate statute, and is also investigating whether the said company may be safely entrusted with the continuance of authority to do business in this State.

The suburban towns around Chicago are renewing their summer activities in **the arrest of automobilists,** whom they charge with exceeding their local speed limits. The Na-

tional Surety Company, which issued a bond under which the holder is authorized to sign as attorney in fact for the company as a guarantor on the bail bonds, has closed an exclusive contract with the Chicago Automobile Club for the issuance of these bonds. A non-member may get a bond, but only after approval by the club authorities.

The Montreal *Daily Herald* says of the **examination of President Cox,** of the Canada Life insurance company, by the Canadian Government Insurance Commission:

The most rabid insurance mender will hardly deny that Senator Cox leaves the witness stand of the Canadian Commission with a considerably enhanced prestige, with his personality placed in a more favorable light before the public, and with a reputation for frankness that should materially strengthen the standing of the companies in which he is influential. That small section of the Canadian press which sees no object in the commission except to provide sensational copy is bitterly disappointed.

The Eastern States will shortly be invaded by the **Shawnee Fire of Topeka, Kan.,** and in accordance with this program, J. Ramsay Barry & Co., of New York, have been appointed general agents for the Eastern territory and some of the Southern States. The company will make a specialty of preferred business, and expects soon to enter New York and the other States for admission to which it has already applied. The Shawnee recently increased its capital to $200,000, and will thus have nearly $1,000,000 assets.

The Iowa managers of the Mutual Life of New York, Fleming Brothers, have begun **suit against seven fire insurance companies** for the loss on their building at Des Moines, which burned recently. They ask for $45,000, the face of their insurance policies, and a 50 per cent. penalty for breach of contract and loss in rentals. The insurance companies were unable to agree with the Flemings as to the loss on the property, claiming that part of the building could be used, while the Flemings claimed a total loss.

In a few weeks' time **E. E. Clapp & Co.,** managers of the accident department of the Fidelity and Casualty Company for New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, will have much more commodious quarters at 66 Pine street, New York city. The building adjoining the present office on the east has been secured, and is now being renovated and adapted to the needs of the business. The two buildings will be connected and made practically one office. The number of the entrance to the new part is 66½.

The **Western Reserve Life insurance company** is being organized at Muncie, Ind., and incorporation papers are nearly ready for filing. Two hundred policyholders will be secured before starting business. The officers elected are as follows: D. P. Campbell, president and acting treasurer; C. O. Prutzman, first vice president; August Braun, second vice president; John W. Bragoo, secretary; Dr. L. L. Ball, medical director; H. H. Orr, attorney, and W. A. Groom and J. F. Lowr, agency directors.

Companies interested in **San Francisco** appreciate the importance of securing the best legal talent available for the hearing of several **test suits in the courts** to decide the various questions of earthquake and dynamite liability and reinsurance responsibility. A committee conferred with a well known Eastern attorney, and asked what he would charge to try three test cases in the San Francisco courts. His answer was that his bill would be $15,000 and expenses.

The court at Burlington, Ia., holds that the New York Life **is unable to regain money** paid by it as insurance on the life of William Jarvis, although it is now known that Jarvis is not dead. Jarvis disappeared in 1897, and after an absence of seven years claim was proved against the company, and paid. Jarvis returned soon afterward, and although he testified in the suit the court decides that under the law the money cannot be refunded.

The **Keystone Bonding Company of Pennsylvania** is being organized by a number of progressive surety men, who have secured their experience from other companies. Prominent among these is Paul V. Connolley, formerly resident vice president of the American Bonding Company at Philadelphia. He has also been connected with the City Trust Company of Philadelphia and the Metropolitan Surety Company of New York.

The charter of the **General American Casualty Company of Philadelphia** has been withdrawn by its owners, Muir & Houghton, according to their statement. The company, which was organized last March under a Delaware charter, has been changed in name to the **United American Life insurance company,** writing life, accident and health insurance. It has $100,000 capital and a surplus to date of about $10,000.

The **Policyholders' Union of Chicago** is now undertaking to place insurance for its members. This grows out of the refusal of the Chicago Underwirters' Association to admit George H. Holt, president of the Policyholders' Union, as a member. The Union is sending out a circular to its members defending its position and claiming that it stands for a reduction in hazard, rather than an increase in rates.

The governing committee of the Western Union is calling companies to account for lax methods in effecting **short rate cancelations.** The rule requires that where the number of days' policies have been in force exceeds any given number of days specified in the table, the next highest percentage must govern. Many companies have been taking the next lowest percentage, or striking an average.

The **insurance of deposits in banks and trust companies** against loss, through the medium of a new form of bond issued by the Fidelity and Casualty Company of New York, for the use of "individuals, business houses, beneficial societies, executors, guardians and others," is one of the new ones. The rate charged is 40 cents per $100 of security, the minimum earned premium being $2.

On arraignment in the County Court at Ovid, N. Y., this week, Rev. Charles Stuart Bain, the Waterloo Baptist **pastor indicted for arson** in the third degree for burning his own church on March 6, through his counsel entered a plea of not guilty and made a claim of insanity. His request for a commission to determine his sanity was granted by the court, and bail fixed at $1,000.

At a meeting of the stockholders Tuesday of the **Hanover Fire of New York** the proposition to decrease the capital stock from $1,000,000 to $500,000 was approved. This will be placed in the surplus account. On June 29 a meeting of the stockholders will vote to increase the capital from $500,000 to $1,000,000. R. Emory Warfield, the newly elected president, was at the meeting.

At the annual meeting of the **Illinois State Board** at Delavan Lake, Wis., June 13, resolutions were adopted deprecating the circulation of rumors about companies in view of the conflagration situation. The following officers were elected: President, Frank C. Haselton, Northern; vice presi-

dent, R. M. Bennett, New York Underwriters; secretary and treasurer, C. F. Persch.

Several concerns **selling lightning rods** are charged with issuing bogus insurance contracts in Nebraska, and the Insurance Department is now after them. These contracts purport to indemnify farmers who purchase lightning rods for any loss by lightning up to $500, for five years. The department says that the contract is a fake and cannot be enforced in law.

The **Federal Mutual Endowment Life insurance company** is being organized in Chicago to operate on the monthly payment plan as an assessment company. It will pay monthly endowments to the beneficiary, proportioned upon the age of the insured, the endowments to cease when the face of the policy has been paid, or the beneficiary marries, in case she is a widow.

Having been admitted to do business in New York State, the **Southern of New Orleans,** through its agents, Dickson & Tweeddale, of 80 William street, New York, began this week to write in the metropolitan district. The company, of which Robert Dickson is president and Mr. Tweeddale assistant secretary, has a capital of $200,00 and assets of nearly half a million.

Succumbing to its California losses, the **North German Fire of New York** has reinsured its outstanding business with the Cosmopolitan Fire, the new company organized by Adolph Loeb & Co., of Chicago, with $300,000 cash capital and $150,000 net surplus. The San Francisco losses were $160,000 net. Business may be resumed later.

A loss of nearly $200,000 was caused **by automatic sprinklers** in the department store of Hayden Brothers at Omaha, Sunday. Fire started in an air tight storage room from spontaneous combustion, releasing two sprinkler heads and flooding the entire building. The damage was not discovered until the water had run for several hours.

A **messenger hold-up policy** is a new one issued by the Ocean Assurance Corporation to protect messengers while carrying money from bank to clearing house. The policy is issued to any business that wants to insure itself against loss of deposits in transit. It is a new feature, as written by the Ocean in a separate contract.

Steps were taken at the recent meeting of the **South Eastern Tariff Association** to have a **history** of the organization prepared in commemoration of the twenty-fifth birthday of the organization. The following committee has been appointed to prepare the history: Clarence F. Low, S. Y. Tupper and Charles C. Fleming.

The **Cincinnati conflagration zone** has been established, as included by territory south from the canal to the river, and east from Central avenue to Broadway. Some of the companies protest against this, holding that it is too large. It is estimated that $80,000,000 of insurable value is contained within these limits.

A **three days' convention in New York city** for all general agents of the National Surety Company east of Denver is the tempting proposition held out by President William B. Joyce, to take place early in August. Similar gatherings at San Francisco, Seattle and Denver have already been successfully held.

The entire second floor of the Potter Building at 39 Park row, New York city, has been leased by the **Metropolitan Surety Company** of New York, the lusty youngster of the casualty world, which sprang into life in April, 1905. This provides 8,500 feet of extra floor space.

The chances for the settlement of the **losses of the Traders of Chicago,** at San Francisco, by voluntary contributions from the stockholders, taking the company out of the hands of the receiver, are less promising as a result of the hostile attitude of the San Franciscans.

The States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut have been added to the jurisdiction of the **V. R. Schenck Company,** of New York, managers of the Eastern Department of the North American Accident of Chicago.

The Western Union has adopted the **"per bale" plan of writing cotton** by a majority vote, permitting its use for buyers' and shippers' contracts, as well as for railway liability at compresses.

Flag Day, June 14, was recognized by the insurance offices in the financial district of New York, and a large number of offices, both domestic and foreign, displayed the national emblem, sometimes accompanied by the flag of the company's birthplace.

Agitation for the **repeal of the Arkansas anti-compact law** has been begun by the fire insurance agents of that State. The removal of Jeffries Davis to the United States Senate is expected to act favorably for the repeal after his transit takes place.

The advent of June sees the majority of the fire insurance **offices in the insurance district closing** at 4 o'clock for the summer months. Many of the other offices will do the same shortly.

There is a good deal of discussion going on in Germany over the **State insurance system** against invalidity and old age, which it is repeatedly stated is face to face with bankruptcy.

On Tuesday the **Cosmopolitan Fire insurance company** of New York was admitted to Massachusetts, with Wilbur C. Smith, of 44 Kilby street, as its Boston agent.

The **Title Guarantee and Trust Company** on Monday removed from its old building at 146 Broadway to the new seven story office building at 176 Broadway.

The **committee on blanks** of the National Convention of Fire Insurance Commissioners will hold a meeting in the city of New York on June 25.

Confirmation of the report of the **reinsurance of** the entire business of the **Security Fire of Baltimore** in the New Jersey

Fire of Camden has been had from J. Ramsay Barry, of New York.

A Berlin company, the **Fortuna Fire,** has opened an agency at San Francisco, and will begin writing a fire and marine business on the Coast.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Ætna Indemnity Company of New York: John Heckle & Sons, agents for forty-nine counties in southern Ohio for bonding, burglary and plate glass business.

National Lumber: John C. Paige & Co., Boston, Mass.

Old Colony Fire of Boston: Blagden, Kelly & Fuller, metropolitan district of New York: A. H. Mills, special agent for New England; Harold Haskins, special agent for the Middle department.

Union of Philadelphia: Walter L. Schnaring, special agent for the Middle department, including Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, succeeding W. D. Kellogg, resigned.

Messrs. McNear & Wayman have been appointed Pacific Coast managers of the National Fire of Hartford, succeeding George D. Dornin, who resigned because of dissatisfaction with the company's plan of settling losses. McNear & Wayman occupy a similar position with the Colonial Underwriters, which is controlled by the National. Mr. Dornin is remaining with them a few days to assist in transferring the agency accounts and records.

Mr. H. P. Moore, of the Home, was elected vice president of the Underwriters' Association of New York State at Syracuse, Tuesday last, succeeding Mr. I. Lloyd Greene, resigned. Mr. A. G. Martin, of the Northern of London, became second vice president. Mr. Greene's retirement was made necessary by his transfer by the Boston to the New England field.

Messrs. Blagden, Kelly & Fuller have been appointed to manage the Hamilton Fire of New York in the territory of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange. The Hamilton formerly maintained its own local agency at 100 William street, in the quarters now occupied by the New York Underwriters' Agency.

Mr. John L. Bunce, since 1901 superintendent of agencies of the Connecticut Mutual Life, has been elected assistant secretary at a meeting of the directors. Mr. Bunce, whose father, Edward M. Bunce, was formerly secretary of the company, will continue to act as head of the agency system.

Mr. W. Rolla Wilson, manager for Colorado of the Washington Life of New York, who came East to attend the banquet of the Life Underwriters' Association of New York, tendered to the executive committee of the National Association recently, has returned to his work at Denver.

Mr. F. A. Borneman, of the Western department of the Sun of London, who was sent to Athens as one of the competitors in the Olympic games, his specialty being fancy diving, won a gold cup, a medal and was crowned with an olive wreath by King George of Greece.

Dr. Daniel Boone Clarke, president since 1876 of the Franklin Fire of Washington, D. C., died June 3 from a stomach ailment at his home in the capital. He was eighty-one years old, and for many years was prominent in financial circles of Washington.

Thomas A. Duffy, of New York, has been appointed general agent for New England for the Guardian Fire of Pennsylvania, the company which was formed from the Conestoga and Armenia companies.

Mr. Frederick G. Webber has succeeded Walter L. Wilcox as secretary of the Lowell, Mass., Board of Fire Underwriters, Mr. Wilcox having become special agent of the City of New York Fire.

Mr. E. M. Hitchcock, formerly Minnesota State agent of the American of Philadelphia, has been appointed special agent for the Farmers and Merchants in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Mr. D. F. Cobb, manager for Kansas of the Equitable Life, has resigned. claiming that the recent troubles have killed his business. He will engage in other business.

Mr. Thomas Egleston, Southern general agent of the Hartford Fire, has been elected president of the Cotton Insurance Association, succeeding Milton Dargan, resigned.

President Charles W. Kent, of the New Brunswick Mutual Fire of New Brunswick, N. J., died from heart trouble at his home there on June 5, after a short illness.

Mr. C. J. H. Woodbury, of Boston, former vice president of the Boston Manufacturers' Mutual, has received the degree of Doctor of Science from Union College.

President Robert B. Armstrong, of the Casualty Company of America, delivered an address Wednesday at Cedar Rapids, Ia., before the State Bankers' Association.

President William B. Joyce, of the National Surety Company, left today for San Francisco and Los Angeles on a business trip. He will be gone about a month.

Mr. Hermann A. Behrens, assistant to President Wilbur S. Tupper, of the Pacific Mutual Life, was a visitor at the New York office of the company this week.

Mr. Charles B. Rudd, general agent in Kansas City, Mo., of the Ocean Assurance Corporation, and A. L. Berger, counsel of the company at that place, were visitors at the New York office of the company this week.

Colonel A. H. Wray, United States manager for the Commercial Union and Palatine, has returned to New York from his Western trip.

Sir W. Thorburn, one of the directors of the Scottish Union and National, has arrived at San Francisco.

Mr. H. M. Huff, special agent of the National Union in Illinois and Iowa, has resigned.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Louisiana.

The following bills, already announced as having been introduced in the Louisiana Legislature, are copies of the Armstrong laws enacted by the New York Legislature at its recent session:

House Bill No. 80, by Mr. Gilbeau—"An act requiring life insurance companies, or companies issuing participating policies, to make an annual distribution of surplus and prohibiting life insurance companies issuing participating policies from doing business in this State after January 1, 1907, unless the provisions of this act are complied with." [Section 83, Chapter 326, Armstrong Law.]

House Bill No. 83, by Mr. Gilbeau—"An act requiring life insurance companies to contain the entire contract between the company and the insured, and the statements purporting to be made by the assured to be representation, not warranties. The law takes effect January 1, 1907." [Section 58, Chapter 326, Armstrong Law.]

House Bill No. 84, by Mr. Gilbeau—"An act prohibiting life insurance companies from forfeiting policies for default in the payment of premiums, interest or instalments, unless written or printed notice has been mailed to the policyholder or the assignee of the policy." [Section 92, Chapter 326, Armstrong Law.] The words "extended insurance" are inserted between the words "surrender value" and "or paid up policy," as in the original.

House Bill No. 240, by Mr. Gilbeau—"An act making it a misdemeanor to use estimates or illustrations misrepresenting the terms of policies issued by life insurance companies in this State." [Section 60, Chapter 326, Armstrong Law.]

House Bill No. 241, by Mr. Gilbeau—"An act prohibiting certain provisions in life insurance policies, applications or certificates issued by companies doing business in this State and fixing penalties for the violation of this act." [Section 59, Chapter 326, Armstrong Law.]

House Bill No. 242, by Mr. Gilbeau—"An act requiring domestic life insurance corporations to have disbursements of $100,000 or more evidenced by voucher signed by the persons receiving the money." [Section 99, Chapter 326, Armstrong Law.]

House Bill No. 237, by Mr. Gay—"An act requiring additional information to be incorporated in the annual reports of life insurance companies doing business in this State and the publication of an abstract thereof by such companies." [Section 103, Chapter 326, Armstrong Law.] The following words are omitted from Clause 11 of the original: "Ascertained according to the select and ultimate method of valuation as provided in Section 84 of this chapter, and the actual expenses chargeable to the procurement of new business incurred since the last annual statement, as enumerated in Section 97 of this article," and a section is added requiring that abstracts of the information required by Section 1 shall be made in accordance with a form prepared by the Secretary of State of Louisiana, "which must be published by the general agent of the company at the expense of the company in two newspapers published in the city of New Orleans and in

the official journal of the State, for the period of time required by the laws of this State for legal advertisements."

The following additional bills have been introduced:

House Bill, by Mr. Stroudback—Requiring fire or fire and marine insurance companies organized under the laws of other States or countries, as a condition precedent to doing business in this State, to have $250,000 or more paid up capital or at least $200,000 paid up capital and a net surplus, which added to the paid up capital aggregates $250,000 or more.

House Bill No. 85, by Mr. Gilbeau—To provide for the regulation of the business of fraternal orders.

House Bill No. 115, by Mr. Dale—Taxes the real estate of local life insurance companies.

House Bill No. 79, by Mr. Gilbeau—To define and regulate the business of industrial life insurance, requires in Section 4 that any industrial company organized under the laws of any other State "shall be authorized to do business in this State upon complying with the other laws of this State, regulating the manner in which foreign insurance companies shall be authorized to do business in this State and filing with the Insurance Commissioner of this State a certificate from the officer having supervision of the Insurance Department of the State under the laws of which such corporation was chartered, that it has deposited with said State a sum of not less than $5,000."

Baton Rouge, La., June 13.—All the Gilbeau-Armstrong bills have been favorably reported from commitee in the House of Representatives.

Miscellany.

Increase in Life Insurance Premium Rates Discussed.

(*Editorial in the Montreal Daily Witness, June 6.*)

The laws which were rushed through the Legislature of the State of New York on recommendation of the Armstrong Insurance Commission were all intended to be for the protection of policyholders, just as, no doubt, was the law passed by our Parliament in 1899. That law of ours required the reserves of the insurance companies to be such that if the money derived from premiums could not be invested at more than 3½ per cent. the policyholder would still be safe. The result that was to be expected followed. The money that would have paid dividends to the policyholders had to be retained to bring the reserves to the required figure, and the dividends to policyholders are permanently, and, as we held at the time, unnecessarily diminished. The curtailment of the freedom of investment by the New York companies by the Armstrong laws was no doubt expected to reduce dividends. But that an increase in the premium rates would follow the regulations for reducing the expenses of the insurance companies was probably not foreseen by the hasty New York legislators, who acted with precipitate and heroic thoroughness in fear of being denounced as friends of the insurance malefactors. The New York *World* has, however, discovered a new horror in a rumor that the Mutual Life of New York is already planning to increase its rates of premium.

It is obvious that none of the large companies would do this at the present critical moment if it could possibly avoid doing so, but there is no reason to suppose that the companies are not contemplating such a change, seeing that the facts reveal a need for it. One of the new laws requires that no company shall expend in agents' salaries, advances, commissions, medical fees and cost of inspection an amount in excess of the loadings upon first year's premiums, and the assumed mortality gains by the select and ultimate method of valuation. Under this rule companies whose premiums are low, and which thus have small margins or loadings in excess of the amount necessary for actual insurance, are permitted to expend only correspondingly small amounts in securing new business, while those that charge bigger premiums have larger margins to spend on expansion. These restrictions on expenses are so severe that most companies must close many of their agencies, and be content with a much smaller volume of new business. As the law penalizes companies with low premiums, and holds out a reward to those that increase their rates, the temptation is very strong.

It is to be hoped that the legislation will not become general, as it would serve Canada a bad turn Our Canadian companies charge lower premiums than those exacted by most of the American offices. Under a similar restriction they would be obliged to increase their premiums to at least the New York level in order to be able even to hold their own in the agency field. They might even have to go a little further than the New York companies, for not only are their total premiums lower than those, for example, of the New York Life, but the net premiums are higher. In New York the net premiums are calculated by the American table of mortality, while in the Dominion they are based upon an English table, which requires higher and safer rates. To take an example: On a twenty payment life policy at the age of thirty-five the premium charged by the New York Life is $38.34, out of which the net premium by the American table is $27.40, and consequently the loading is $10.94, while the premium charged for the same by a Canadian company is $36.95, out of which the net premium by the Canadian Government table is $28.25, leaving a margin, which is technically known as a loading, of only $8.70. Therefore the deficit between the amount the American companies can spend and the Canadian would be $2.24. The Canadian companies would need to increase their premiums 6 per cent. to get only on a par with the New York companies. The Armstrong legislation further provides a maximum for the total expenditures of each company for all purposes, this also being based upon the loadings. Those companies which have in the past charged low premiums, and, consequently, received smaller loadings, are thus discriminated against for giving the public cheap insurance. This discrimination is specially severe against non-participating policies. The Armstrong laws unaccountably prohibit all companies which issue "with profit" policies from issuing any on the "without profit" plan at all. It is a question on the grounds of the broadest public benefit if regulations which will reduce the volume of insurance to half or a third of what it has been are really beneficent. Yet this is the result looked for by men of insurance experience. That life insurance expenses are too high is unquestionable, but it is a question whether remedial measures so severe as seriously to lessen the volume of business done would not be a greater evil than that which they are intended to remedy.

This Country Is Sound Despite the Muckrakers—Notable Utterances of Public Men this Week.

(*Mayor McClellan at Union College Commencement.*)

There is a part of our population which glories in the pessimism of its views, that always assumes conditions as they are to be a little worse than conditions as they were. The tone of these pessimists is apt to create an impression that the general political standard of the day is lower than it has been, and is gradually deteriorating into an abysmal void of impossible wickedness and horror.

We Americans are a curious combination of scoffers and hero worshipers. The fluctuations in the hero market are so great that it is only the half-forgotten worthy, dead and gone, who is sure of his place in the minutes of history.

As a matter of fact, civilization increases and public morals improve as the years go by. Fortunately for the human race the raising of the moral standard has not been at the expense of the intellectual.

As a race our pace of life has become more rapid. This has reacted upon our nerves, and possibly made us more censorious and captious; but in our calmer moments we recognize integrity and honesty quite as much as did our forefathers. The rank and file of the politicians in this country are sound. They will hew close to the line of righteousness and integrity if properly led.

(*Robert B. Armstrong before the Iowa Bankers' Convention.*)

The corporations who have been found wanting in the scale of business honor and common honesty have been the exceptions to the rule—the rare exceptions. If it were possible to compare the management of the corporation with the management of the individual firm, I dare assert that the comparison would not be to the disadvantage of those institutions founded upon the co-operation of capital. In that lies the crime of this irresponsible, continuous, persistent, zeal-without-knowledge cry that all co-operated forms of capital are inimical to the success, the prosperity and permanent welfare of the American pople.

One of these mornings you will miss prosperity at breakfast. There will be many excuses for her absence from her usual place. One will say "bad crops"; another will say "overproduction"; another will say "abnormal extension of credits." But none of these will be the real reason, though they may be contributory. The real reason will be an epidemic of fear, of timidity, of distrust, produced by unwarranted, continuous attacks upon every

instrument of progress and development which has made and is making this country great.

Fortified as this country is with its unparalleled prosperity, the nation has so far withstood the assaults upon the developing agencies which have produced our boundless prosperity. Had there been less prosperity, had there been less cushion for the impact, financial and industrial depression would already have overtaken us. No commerce can keep its courage in the face of the demagoguery of politicians, yellow journals and the envious.

Copious legislation has been produced in the last six months to reform this or regulate that. Much of it has been drastic, some of it exceedingly good, some of it bad, much of it impractical. All the legislation which seeks to produce equal rights and equal privileges is beneficial. The American man, woman and child, if unswayed by an appeal to passion, demands only the same treatment accorded to others.

(*President Butler at Columbia University Commencement.*)

Looking back over a thousand years or more it is plain that civilized man has traveled far. An examination of his progress will show, I think, that it rests mainly upon three principles, gradually evolved and erected into institutions: Civil and industrial liberty, private property and the inviolability of contract. Upon these as a cornerstone rests what we know today as civilized human society. That our society has its evils, terrible and dangerous, cannot be denied. That greed for gain holds an appalling number of men in its grasp, and that the moral tone of large business undertakings is painfully low are only too evident. But it is quite too rash a conclusion to infer that society must be destroyed and its cornerstone displaced before those evils can be remedied. It may be true—and I think it is—that the difficulty is not so much with the tried and tested principles upon which society rests as with the honesty and intelligence with which those principles are worked. The abounding prosperity of our country, with its untold opportunities for material success, the loosening of the hold of some of the old religious and ethical sanctions of conduct, and the weakening of parental control and discipline, have united to place upon American character a burden which in too many instances it has not been able to bear.

Remarks by London Insurance Papers on Mr. Haldeman's Performance.

(*The Insurance Observer.*)

Holders of the policies issued by the Mutual Life insurance company of New York in this country may be earnestly advised to read and ponder over the words used by Mr. Emory McClintock, when speaking on Thursday last, to a representative of the *Financial News,* who was so fortunate as to secure an audience with that world famous American actuary. Those who adopt the course suggested will not be likely, we think, to accept the specious—may we say, meretricious—offer made to them by the joint managers of the life department of the North British and Mercantile insurance company; unless, be it added, there is some special desire to benefit that company at the expense of the policyholder himself. Men and women who wish to throw away money—there are not many—may be counseled to fall in with the proposals made to them, but they must not subsequently complain should their fit of generosity lead to undesirable consequences.

What Mr. McClintock stated at the conclusion of the interview in question is the plain unvarnished truth, known to everyone who possesses the slightest acquaintance with the actuarial side of life insurance. By accepting a surrender value a policyholder must lose something because no life assurance company, however liberal it may be, can afford to pay the full value for a surrendered policy, without doing injustice to its remaining policyholders and leaving itself open to injury from the effects of adverse selection. It is equally certain that no life office will accept a single new risk, or any number of new risks, unless it sees its way to making a probable profit by the transaction. Two profits will therefore have to be paid by the foolish and misguided people who exchange their present Mutual contracts for others granted by the North British and Mercantile—one profit to each company. As Mr. McClintock puts the matter, "there are three parties to the transaction. There are the insured, the Mutual Life of New York, and the North British. By paying out a surrender value the Mutual of New York cannot lose. The North British and Mercantile would certainly prefer to make some profit. Whatever loss there be among the three must fall upon the third party to the contract."

(*The Review.*)

Much that was written in the daily press can only be classed as frothy "journalese," and altogether overpainted the situation. The proposal of the North British, however, was severely criticised—and we think justly so—in many quarters which command respect. The conditions of the offer, even with Mr. D. C. Haldeman behind it, seemingly as the inspiring influence, leads us to suppose that, on reflection, the number to desert the Mutual will not be overpowering. Firstly, we are under the impression that the great majority of the policyholders concerned possess common sense and sound business knowledge, and that most of them, after quietly weighing up the pros and cons, will decide that the terms of the North British are not appreciably better than those given by the Mutual Life. Secondly, they must know that the Mutual Life has never had its ability to carry out its obligations questioned, so that there is no more reason for doubting that the policy will be met on maturity than for doubting the capacity of the North British to discharge its own liabilities. Certainly a few will transfer, but the offer of the North British closes on June 9, and thus we are happily ensured an early and welcome conclusion to the whole of this unsettling business. We strongly advise policyholders of the Mutual to pause and ponder very seriously ere deciding, and the more they turn the matter over the more will they become convinced, we are sure, of the wisdom of remaining with the company with whom they originally effected their insurance.

Amid the controversy that has taken place regarding the position of the policyholders of the Mutual Life of New York, and the action of the North British and Mercantile, one little matter stands out, the elucidation of which would be singularly interesting to outsiders. We refer to the late London manager of the Mutual taking the rather daring course, on behalf of his new love, of circularizing the policyholders of the company with which he had just given up connection. They are said to number 26,000. Under what circumstances, then, did these names and addresses come to be used on behalf of the North British and Mercantile? No doubt Mr. Haldeman can satisfactorily account for it, and his explanation would be really very interesting at the present juncture, because we are tempted to ask, "Is it not a fact that the names and addresses of insurance policyholders are generally considered to be the confidential property of the companies who issue the policies?" We make no charge, either directly or by inference, against Mr. Haldeman, but only raise an interesting point relative to business ethics, lifted quite out of any personal connection.

Western Fire Insurance Mutuals Convene at the Hub.

Boston is still easily the queen of summer convention cities. Hardly had the physical and mental healers taken a regretful departure when the National Association of Co-operative Mutual Insurance Companies, an organization mainly made up of Western mutuals, appeared on the scene and was most hospitably greeted by the Massachusetts Mutual Insurance Union.

At the opening session at the American House, Tuesday afternoon, Vice President Stevenson, of the Union, welcomed the visitors and reviewed the early struggles and final success of mutualism in the old Bay State. He took "our stock brethren" to task for the high commissions paid, and consequent expenses incurred in carrying on their companies, and could not understand why property owners will pay these rates when the mutuals give them the benefit of what is otherwise absorbed by middlemen. Mr. Stevenson stated that since the establishment of the Union in 1878 the companies composing its membership had increased their premiums from $3,668,810 to $7,742,193 in 1905, and attributed a great part of their success to their adherence to what is known as the "cash premium system," experience showing that it was much easier to obtain money for the payment of losses before a claim is made than after.

President Forbes, of the National Association, in his annual address referred to the East as the place where the co-operative insurance idea originated, and its development in the West, where it now is one of the successful methods of insuring property.

Among the topics treated in papers were "Qualification of Farm Risks," by H. L. Keefe, of West Point, Neb., and "Uniformity of Fees," by R. J. Young, of Oelwein, Ia. At Wednesday's session C. F. Mingenback, discussing "Guaranty Fund for Mutual Insurance Companies," said that there were about 1,800

(*Continued on page 466.*)

Fire Insurance Business in Kansas in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$6,624,846	$88,582	$66,013
Agricultural, Watertown	880,300	11,462	4,599
American, Newark	6,080,362	69,350	48,240
American Central, St. Louis	4,653,137	64,513	42,726
American Fire, Philadelphia	1,028,457	11,367	12,742
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	253,547	4,903	4,728
Austin Fire, Austin	305,719	4,130	10,952
British America, Toronto	670,058	9,304	5,213
Citizens, St. Louis	1,536,331	19,283	11,706
Columbia Fire, Lincoln	6,083,169	60,353	14,501
Commercial Union, London	4,397,569	64,362	39,866
Concordia, Milwaukee	1,827,958	16,960	9,090
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	6,831,748	94,683	53,576
Continental, New York	20,875,813	190,133	106,518
Delaware, Philadelphia	1,236,418	14,808	10,954
Fire Association, Philadelphia	2,248,106	34,621	32,038
Firemen's, Newark	1,007,427	11,810	10,241
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	577,765	7,543	4,993
Freeholders, Topeka	1,174,897	14,809	3,284
German, Freeport, Ill	11,390,953	159,188	102,654
German, Indianapolis	1,795,856	23,568	17,362
German Alliance, New York	919,695	12,572	9,410
German American, New York	8,074,299	87,041	60,683
German National, Chicago	1,764,165	18,650	19,699
Germania Fire, New York	3,031,520	38,883	45,804
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	428,347	4,533	2,290
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	1,991,025	16,785	4,993
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	811,147	13,098	11,082
Hanover Fire, New York	182,706	3,269	12,465
Hartford Fire, New York	20,599,853	208,914	118,023
Home, New York	17,970,731	186,208	104,314
Home F. and M., San Francisco	441,058	4,601	4,305
Indemnity Fire, New York	183,425	2,920	3,722
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	116,217	1,871	416
Insurance Co. of North America	3,757,007	50,258	23,654
Liverpool and London and Globe, Eng.	6,932,906	78,518	25,197
London and Lancashire	1,336,186	19,327	12,861
London Assurance Corporation	992,742	13,449	5,145
Mercantile F. and M., Boston	444,519	6,141	2,596
Michigan Commercial, Detroit	802,660	9,363	4,537
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	1,761,908	23,392	23,685
National Fire, Hartford	6,377,398	80,929	42,922
National Union, Pittsburgh	1,169,937	15,330	9,984
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	1,703,430	20,407	17,188
New York Fire, New York	45,485	1,185	4,259
Nigara Fire, New York	3,204,878	45,802	25,685
North British and Mercantile	4,015,195	48,030	32,286
Northern, London	1,472,889	22,148	24,370
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	4,052,096	36,802	11,951
Norwich Union, Norwich	1,077,485	15,329	10,667
Orient, Hartford	889,578	11,964	11,702
Palatine, London	1,380,900	22,271	14,932
Pelican, New York	180,981	2,412	2,011
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	4,187,487	50,038	27,624
Phenix, Brooklyn	8,654,289	114,680	60,277
Phœnix, Hartford	3,224,872	36,737	24,251
Phœnix, London	940,951	13,114	6,512
Providence Washington	2,206,227	23,772	18,880
Prussian National, Stettin	1,081,136	9,481	14,394
Queen, New York	3,014,261	41,590	29,664
Reliance, Philadelphia	1,015,788	13,057	10,571
Royal, Liverpool	2,663,813	34,877	17,552
Royal Exchange, London	171,040	1,331	953
St. Paul F. and M., St. Paul	9,704,471	110,115	37,538
Security, New Haven	2,790,871	26,005	15,603
Shawnee Fire, Topeka	22,776,730	254,347	202,620
Skandia, Stockholm	230,089	3,986	6,340
Springfield Fire and Marine	8,823,115	119,445	59,012
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	1,375,608	18,927	11,393
Sun, London	1,470,630	14,767	5,833
Toledo F. and M., Toledo	11,000	215	------
Traders, Chicago	1,136,862	14,693	7,063
United Firemen's Philadelphia	262,516	4,107	6,373
Westchester Fire, New York	1,359,910	19,479	12,138
Western, Toronto	1,275,392	16,414	21,335
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	820,911	11,763	2,761
Totals, 1905	$258,790,773	$3,051,074	$1,913,521
Comparison With Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$231,040,207	$2,831,919	$1,650,673
1903	259,500,711	2,406,885	1,037,262
1902	204,292,886	2,364,039	1,329,077
1901	202,786,573	2,197,732	1,226,150
1900	186,566,862	2,006,361	1,241,776
1899	183,444,721	1,945,797	1,170,751
1898	147,481,944	1,771,862	762,197
1897	137,181,801	1,745,984	631,335
1896	128,026,786	1,712,336	958,629
1895	128,902,971	1,744,693	1,171,673
1894	140,109,801	1,961,454	1,070,572
1893	138,041,771	1,929,936	943,576
1892	142,146,123	2,028,185	1,011,487
1891	131,054,976	1,771,788	763,669
1880 to 1890	1,115,360,953	16,662,386	7,855,186

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 51.7. The percentage in 1905 was 62.7.

Fire Insurance Business in Kentucky in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$921,846	$13,902	$6,073
Ætna, Hartford	6,163,463	105,627	70,319
Agricultural, Watertown	1,469,200	15,644	11,808
Alliance, London	271,471	3,096	2
American, Boston	1,028,786	12,428	3,079
American Central, St. Louis	1,961,208	35,238	28,753
American Fire, Philadelphia	1,769,030	23,596	17,309
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	988,678	21,964	17,283
Armenia, Pittsburgh	870,853	12,575	5,060
Assurance Company of New York	976,160	10,238	4,925
Atlanta Birmingham, Atlanta	1,599,794	27,747	10,797
Atlas, London	2,166,448	31,779	10,309
British America, Toronto	764,869	9,856	3,243
British American, New York	270,498	3,344	833
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	907,583	10,287	1,951
Buffalo German, Buffalo	1,615,656	17,699	7,902
Calendonian, Edinburgh	683,099	9,797	2,953
Calumet Fire, Chicago	297,750	5,086	1,036
Citizens, St. Louis	2,588,232	46,845	36,978
City of New York, New York	322,432	2,679	1,655
Commerce, Albany	339,455	3,767	983
Commercial Union, London	3,584,511	49,469	24,193
Commercial Union Fire, New York	404,699	4,157	1,470
Commonwealth, New York	963,556	6,737	3,890
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	5,540,566	90,716	47,339
Continental, New York	21,636,362	225,687	109,300
County Fire, Philadelphia	127,210	861	------
Delaware, Philadelphia	580,495	7,019	3,506
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	362,800	4,533	205
Eagle Fire, New York	575,655	7,209	314
Equitable Fire & Marine, Providence	600,855	9,014	3,557
Federal, Jersey City	1,037,105	10,629	2,365
Fire Association, Philadelphia	3,590,154	63,338	42,063
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	2,721,716	43,856	11,619
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	356,922	6,131	839
Georgia Home, Columbus	2,083,007	32,910	17,847
German, Freeport, Ill	2,763,354	37,253	32,427
German, Peoria, Ill	91,525	1,135	------
German, Louisville	1,202,079	16,494	2,264
German Alliance, New York	330,532	4,481	2,781
German American, New York	4,455,132	65,239	34,775
German Security, Louisville	826,384	12,306	1,260
Germania Fire, New York	3,000,943	45,835	17,158
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	2,385,021	33,330	18,776
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	3,352,389	46,662	20,381
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	2,950,659	55,695	24,810
Hanover Fire, New York	2,068,414	36,436	24,336
Hartford Fire, Hartford	21,117,569	373,060	242,102
Home, New York	38,360,733	300,275	125,806
Home F. and M., San Francisco	1,196,868	13,743	5,437
Indemnity Fire, New York	265,324	4,135	4,267
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	108,449	2,505	33
Insurance Company of N. America	5,431,818	89,092	53,385
Liverpool and London and Globe	6,639,333	110,364	47,614
London and Lancashire	3,191,292	47,894	20,412
London Assurance Corporation	1,145,657	17,760	6,816
Louisville, Louisville	1,361,308	13,674	2,811
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	313,704	4,733	2,437
Michigan Fire and Marine, Detroit	287,591	5,554	1,745
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	2,137,242	34,230	4,960
National Fire, Hartford	4,581,409	58,622	20,869
National Union, Pittsburgh	2,066,030	25,472	5,527
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	1,723,552	19,997	5,910
New York Fire, New York	433,490	6,526	3,718
Niagara Fire, New York	1,936,187	32,779	24,848
North British & Mercantile, England	4,937,263	83,191	52,672
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	355,505	3,920	154
Northern, London	3,856,129	48,943	20,819
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	2,099,584	23,692	11,692
Norwich Union, Norwich	2,030,210	30,784	20,680
Orient, Hartford	2,043,383	23,415	7,940
Palatine, London	1,605,678	19,405	10,080
Pelican, New York	632,924	9,762	4,659
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	2,377,126	35,660	17,928
Phenix, Brooklyn	5,276,525	99,332	75,919
Phœnix, Hartford	4,787,047	60,393	28,536
Phœnix, London	2,454,043	41,788	21,571
Providence Washington, Providence	1,850,371	20,165	10,206
Prussian National, Stettin	1,451,417	11,818	3,198
Queen, New York	4,330,300	69,972	32,642
Reliance, Philadelphia	855,583	8,900	3,986
Rochester German, Rochester	587,080	11,109	3,383
Royal, Liverpool	8,772,564	124,094	62,454
Royal Exchange, London	2,143,571	41,928	29,979
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	2,529,129	31,539	19,685
Scottish Union and National	2,549,729	38,275	25,462
Security, Dayton	620,055	8,316	1,422
Skandia, Stockholm	103,369	1,663	9
Springfield Fire and Marine	3,979,608	67,541	35,235
State Fire, Liverpool	207,023	2,136	26
Sun, London	3,025,366	44,548	16,488
Toledo Fire and Marine, Toledo	113,800	3,671	------
Traders, Chicago	1,554,842	23,178	6,430
Union, Philadelphia	735,330	8,067	3,123
Union, London	1,135,095	11,422	4,768
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	552,761	9,853	6,950
United States Fire, New York	1,141,054	20,295	9,977
Westchester Fire, New York	1,896,687	26,043	9,005
Western, Toronto	2,308,548	23,730	8,942
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	919,787	12,618	3,283
Totals, 1905	$263,684,598	$3,601,907	$1,838,726

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Comparison With Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$263,058,031	$3,580,112	$1,635,137
1903	227,625,104	3,301,301	1,746,229
1902	226,681,069	3,310,157	1,617,781
1901	219,938,039	2,922,747	1,760,286
1900	215,665,023	2,892,549	1,642,205
1899	201,126,899	2,755,045	1,786,774
1898	184,305,328	2,608,084	1,712,571
1897	194,964,327	2,675,655	1,166,296
1896	183,728,026	2,513,832	1,898,293
1895	173,335,719	2,657,712	1,534,936
1894	187,397,797	2,605,341	1,434,732
1893	206,910,552	2,764,246	2,340,787
1892	229,726,283	3,001,735	1,804,721
1891	201,890,152	2,455,307	1,806,510
1880 to 1890	1,637,617,984	20,425,056	12,581,957

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 59.7. The percentage in 1905 was 51.0.

Fire Insurance Business in Texas in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$962,897	$16,520	$6,919
Ætna, Hartford	16,737,234	264,039	107,600
Agricultural, Watertown	2,014,100	28,127	9,404
Allemannia, Philadelphia	304,901	3,936	7
American, Boston	2,161,905	40,296	17,719
American, Newark	1,574,661	23,468	4,260
American Central, St. Louis	6,857,924	117,744	61,991
American Fire, Philadelphia	133,050	1,802	------
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	1,203,234	23,262	22,919
Armenia, Pittsburgh	320,683	5,271	1,630
Assurance Company of New York	2,398,542	26,050	14,777
Atlanta Birmingham, Birmingham	1,981,594	41,479	13,655
Atlas, London	1,786,732	30,437	18,075
Austin, Austin	5,043,212	93,002	34,425
British America, Toronto	1,362,838	24,127	9,683
British American, New York	69,065	1,385	1,041
Caledonian, Edinburgh	1,292,043	22,623	10,897
Calumet Fire, Chicago	545,592	9,784	7,661
Camden Fire, Camden	1,674,798	33,315	16,321
Citizens, St. Louis	2,964,629	51,086	29,740
Cologne Reinsurance, Cologne	644,129	10,554	314
Commercial, Houston	1,197,940	14,997	4,776
Commercial Union, London	5,012,100	89,522	64,491
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	3,752,400	68,492	39,344
Continental, New York	7,824,480	133,150	60,949
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	1,521,730	20,574	7,361
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	183,870	2,981	------
Eagle Fire, New York	1,198,828	17,669	3,815
Federal, Jersey City	2,259,945	28,834	14,699
Fire Association, Philadelphia	9,284,983	186,824	82,769
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	8,149,277	108,876	51,461
Georgia Home, Columbus	4,000,284	65,122	29,270
German, Freeport	6,769,562	128,086	61,673
German Alliance, New York	2,463,093	46,406	21,925
German American, New York	8,881,502	123,902	63,371
German American, Philadelphia	161,694	2,235	473
German Fire, Peoria	226,008	4,195	------
Germania Fire, New York	3,851,671	53,021	12,099
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	1,123,565	21,864	3,274
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	2,858,129	24,836	10,298
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	2,248,092	58,206	2,465
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	3,397,322	64,978	40,623
Hanover Fire, New York	2,084,512	40,133	15,122
Hartford Fire, Hartford	29,993,463	464,310	177,795
Home, New York	15,257,497	199,419	65,545
Home F. and M., San Francisco	1,684,508	33,707	18,213
Houston F. and M., Houston	1,560,614	37,854	18,033
Indemnity Fire, New York	623,183	10,666	7,632
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	38,069	1,025	3,940
Ins. Co. of N. America, Philadelphia	5,152,404	94,618	48,727
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverp'l	16,193,420	270,201	152,754
Liverpool & London & Globe, N. Y.	1,236,960	21,812	13,331
London and Lancashire, London	3,038,659	55,373	25,816
London Assurance Corporation	1,229,492	21,840	9,083
Louisville, Louisville	297,751	3,873	3,715
Mercantile F. and M., Boston	904,254	18,112	14,942
Michigan F. and M., Detroit	725,054	11,388	8,317
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	2,941,643	61,469	19,207
National Fire, Hartford	6,001,040	107,059	47,495
National Union, Pittsburgh	3,680,788	52,371	28,357
New Hampshire Fire, Concord	5,138,088	102,875	48,130
New York Fire, New York	175,563	4,453	4,626
Niagara Fire, New York	4,021,648	77,460	43,687
North British and Mercantile, London	5,400,496	94,444	45,018
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	241,327	3,538	2,731
Northern, London	4,218,010	55,278	38,114
North River Fire, New York	3,065,800	17,115	14,362
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	517,050	4,970	------
Norwich Union, Norwich	2,689,613	47,515	27,823
Orient, Hartford	3,311,169	71,837	28,731
Palatine, London	1,737,314	37,136	26,140
Pelican, New York	399,900	7,557	3,320
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	5,825,478	116,510	62,562
Phenix, Brooklyn	8,917,879	129,588	61,076
Phœnix, Hartford	12,573,812	176,684	83,211
Phœnix, London	3,660,949	81,111	42,406
Providence Washington, Providence	4,787,158	57,196	28,176
Prussian National, Stettin	3,653,637	49,207	24,412
Queen City Fire, Sioux Falls	253,306	5,308	1,625
Queen, New York	5,685,138	80,638	41,283
Rochester German, Rochester	2,628,884	39,102	14,776
Royal, London	13,425,176	167,107	84,197
Royal Exchange, London	1,283,076	22,020	13,320
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	1,070,119	18,155	19,587
St. Paul F. and M., St. Paul	7,159,065	70,949	24,954
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	6,342,248	129,777	73,695
Security, New Haven	2,298,717	28,655	2,778
Shawnee, Topeka	781,668	12,831	1,176
Southern, New Orleans	1,696,709	27,948	19,402
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	7,882,077	91,918	27,624
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	1,184,085	25,218	3,354
Sun, London	2,920,746	51,281	27,440
Sun, New Orleans	1,743,786	35,878	29,789
T. and C. Company, Dallas	825,227	11,644	2,012
Teutonia, New Orleans	1,585,017	32,458	15,473
Toledo F. and M., Toledo	8,000	206	------
Traders, Chicago	4,451,761	66,837	47,796
Union, London	2,177,758	25,947	913
Virginia F. and M., Richmond	1,836,359	36,026	31,874
Virginia State, Richmond	960,647	20,993	14,210
Westchester Fire, New York	3,517,628	57,957	33,182
Western, Toronto	7,033,969	52,997	35,419
Williamsburgh City Fire, N. Y.	2,327,087	44,928	21,524
Totals, 1905	$372,456,693	$5,929,559	$2,814,126
Comparison With Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$386,229,128	$6,076,220	$2,770,547
1903	323,492,853	5,561,641	2,325,649
1902	305,668,882	5,314,660	2,832,671
1901	342,969,722	4,906,398	3,122,727
1900	304,712,459	4,300,069	2,064,732
1899	277,853,544	4,289,804	2,547,431
1898	262,381,665	3,974,438	2,480,185
1897	224,418,949	4,279,129	2,092,319
1896	215,976,010	3,575,846	2,631,947
1895	198,613,042	3,589,867	1,892,881
1894	179,937,487	3,217,273	2,332,294
1893	206,596,810	3,658,308	2,465,783
1892	210,487,358	3,477,506	2,513,245
1891	198,268,974	3,352,397	2,580,959
1880 to 1890	1,384,492,909	23,135,204	14,433,738

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 59.2. The percentage in 1905 was 47.5.

Fire Insurance Business in Montana in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$410,675	$9,434	$11,618
Ætna, Hartford	1,096,909	25,633	24,201
Agricultural, Watertown	288,600	6,959	3,799
Alliance, London	584,741	13,435	12,895
American, Boston	284,219	6,045	5,338
American, Newark	344,773	7,435	896
American Central, St. Louis	813,831	20,102	5,081
American Fire, Philadelphia	526,963	13,315	11,892
Atlas, London	717,006	16,157	13,314
British America, Toronto	296,200	7,640	6,633
Caledonian, Edinburgh	494,544	10,674	13,569
Caledonian American, New York	371,025	8,137	11,154
Citizens, St. Louis	335,689	8,953	8,737
Cologne Reinsurance, Cologne	343,472	7,214	6,388
Commercial Union, London	946,013	20,912	4,681
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	1,068,317	26,560	9,718
Continental, New York	691,812	14,763	8,642
Delaware, Philadelphia	165,310	3,519	2,514
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	185,783	4,991	3,511
Fire Association, Philadelphia	934,640	24,016	19,973
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	2,415,042	59,717	45,587
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	534,000	12,708	13,135
German, Freeport	645,695	12,024	13,570
German Alliance, New York	228,354	5,564	7,573
German American, New York	1,136,798	25,865	13,156
Germania Fire, New York	540,900	13,400	9,864
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	239,842	6,405	3,237
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	548,587	9,383	7,039
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	760,219	20,193	15,298
Hanover Fire, New York	344,910	8,635	6,004
Hartford Fire, Hartford	2,623,311	50,251	36,813
Home, New York	1,768,842	36,342	24,750
Home F. and M., San Francisco	752,997	18,882	16,269
Indemnity Fire, New York	97,645	2,400	2,485
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	290,453	6,838	7,084
Insurance Co. of N. America, Phila.	1,070,238	26,775	18,694
Law Union and Crown, London	500,057	11,962	3,926
Liv. and Lon. and Globe, Liverpool	2,145,778	39,123	33,543

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Liv. and Lon. and Globe, New York.	12,950	288	1,068
London and Lancashire, London.....	588,609	13,411	1,522
London Assurance, London.....	633,645	14,481	6,380
Mercantile F. and M., Boston.....	358,277	8,711	3,041
Michigan F. and M., Detroit.....	445,433	10,627	5,425
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee....	394,650	9,349	6,648
Moscow, Moscow.....	189,868	4,112	4,904
National Fire, Hartford.....	1,134,040	27,296	22,612
National Union, Pittsburgh.....	299,175	7,512	5,319
New Hampshire Fire, Concord.....	261,325	6,039	3,546
New Zealand F. and M., Auckland..	478,903	10,930	5,508
New York Fire, New York.....	49,450	949	2,517
Niagara Fire, New York.....	545,539	13,308	9,198
North British and Mercantile, London	952,055	21,019	7,374
Northern, London.....	703,545	17,574	9,458
Norwich Union, Norwich.....	561,013	14,614	11,772
Orient, Hartford.....	420,527	8,873	4,058
Palatine, London.....	506,533	11,776	22,156
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia.....	620,528	14,889	9,550
Phenix, Brooklyn.....	1,133,756	24,806	16,478
Phœnix, Hartford.....	656,905	15,747	11,910
Phœnix, London.....	751,758	19,075	21,249
Providence Washington, Providence..	504,485	9,549	5,469
Prussian National, Stettin.....	560,500	11,216	5,385
Queen, New York.....	806,371	17,712	1,647
Rochester German, Rochester.....	191,091	4,249	6,833
Royal, London.....	1,835,064	42,428	16,328
Royal Exchange, London.....	579,010	13,528	4,886
St. Paul F. and M., St. Paul.....	1,163,997	17,534	4,740
Salamandra, St. Petersburg.....	188,209	4,361	9,971
Scottish U. and N., Edinburgh.....	478,955	11,471	11,538
Security, New Haven.....	161,605	2,445	1,593
Springfield F. and M., Springfield...	810,666	19,256	13,891
Spring Garden, Philadelphia.....	147,640	3,878	6,300
State Fire, London.....	336,053	7,591	6,612
Sun, London.....	1,339,715	28,508	3,955
Svea Fire and Life, Gothenburg.....	853,703	32,729	11,576
Teutonia, New Orleans.....	280,050	4,869	3,108
Toledo F. and M., Toledo.....	7,000	164	------
Traders, Chicago.....	368,791	8,810	6,944
Transatlantic Fire, Hamburg.....	784,102	19,064	17,407
Union, London.....	796,834	18,636	13,749
Westchester Fire, New York.....	618,162	15,139	10,490
Western, Toronto.....	470,571	9,979	12,362
Williamsburg City Fire, New York..	338,154	8,161	6,558
Totals, 1905.....	$52,863,402	$1,209,024	$835,616
Comparison With Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$60,174,657	$1,230,004	$590,987
1903	48,824,376	1,120,394	469,428
1902	48,110,663	1,091,349	432,669
1901	49,040,600	1,056,630	457,748
1900	44,212,574	897,701	495,215
1899	38,117,290	783,349	199,898
1898	36,914,697	736,286	249,310
1897	29,489,684	641,603	233,361
1896	31,642,530	669,140	227,895
1895	29,309,382	623,912	200,284
1894	26,852,407	626,905	228,544
1893	25,430,071	589,802	182,268
1892	30,179,385	708,225	254,635
1891	27,516,805	638,882	142,463
1880 to 1890.....	123,472,758	2,915,012	1,188,492

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 37.2. The percentage in 1905 was 69.1.

(*Continued from page* 463.)

such companies in the United States, and he presumed that there were at least 500 different methods being used by them to accomplish the same object. While a guaranty fund was not in accord with the mutual system, business conditions as molded by the exigencies of Eastern capital had put the purely mutual company at a great disadvantage in the West. In Kansas the situation became so grave that a law was enacted permitting a mutual company with sufficient surplus to set aside $25,000 for the better protection of its policyholders, and, when such a fund was set apart as a guaranty fund, to write cash business in addition to the note or instalment plan. Thus Kansas mutuals are now enabled to go outside their immediate bailiwick to compete with the stock companies.

C. P. Dyer, of Marietta, Ohio, contributed a paper showing that there had been a great reduction in fire losses in States maintaining a fire marshal department; that, therefore, such an office was well worth its cost, and should be established in States not having it now.

John F. Zimmer, of Lincoln, Neb., speaking of hail insurance, said that it was carried on in but six or seven States. In Nebraska, where hail insurance companies have been given wider scope through recent legislative enactment, the business for the past seven years showed a loss ratio of but $37 per $1,000, as against $90 per $1,000 sustained by the companies insuring against fire.

President Joseph Gray, of the Boston Manufacturers' Mutual Fire, gave a brief review of the origin and rise of the factory mutual system of New England, which had reduced the loss by mill fires to the low average of 4 cents per $100.

At Thursday's session President Gasche, of the Kansas State Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, spoke upon "Coinsurance," recommending the incorporation of a 75 per cent. clause in the policies of the Western mutuals; James H. Caseberr, of Nebraska, contributed a paper on "The Psychology of Mutual Principles," and George L. Loomis, of Fremont, Neb., one on "Reinsurance." In the evening Prof. J. West Dodd, of Des Moines, Ia., gave a lecture, illustrated with numerous electrical devices. The proceedings of the convention were diversified by a dinner at the American House Monday evening, a trip to old Marblehead on Tuesday, and a luncheon on the lawn of the estate of President Barrett, of the Middlesex Mutual, at Concord on Thursday.

Indictments by the Special Grand Jury.

The special grand jury which has been in session since May 1 investigating the charges against officers and directors of life insurance companies found six indictments this week against Dr. Walter R. Gillette, former vice president of the Mutual Life insurance company, five for forgery in the third degree and one for perjury, and two against Robert C. Granniss, former vice president, one for forgery in the third degree and one for misdemeanor in filing a false report with the State Insurance Superintendent. The indictments are based on connivance in false entries entered on the books of the company for purchases of printing and stationery supplies never delivered and intended to cover up the use of money employed in meeting illegal and improper legislative expenses. The following is the presentment of the grand jury:

The grand jury in the County of New York empaneled for the May (1906) term of the Supreme Court, Criminal Branch, respectfully presents to the court:

That beginning its inquiries pursuant to the charge of the court, it has confined its investigations largely to the examination of the manner in which one branch of the business of the Mutual Life insurance company of New York was conducted.

The evidence before it has clearly shown that each year, for many years past, large sums of the company's money have been obtained by means most irregular and fraudulent, and, though probably applied to uses thought to be for the benefit of the company, such expenditures have been of so improper or questionable a character that no entries of them have been made on the books of the company nor have any vouchers showing the character of the disbursements been taken.

The system employed was confessedly designed to deceive and conceal, and has rendered it very difficult to fix responsibility. Moreover, the death of several persons whose evidence might have been of great value has apparently encouraged a tendency to throw burdens upon the dead which others, perhaps, would have had to bear had death not intervened.

The court charged that the law required we should not find an indictment unless legal evidence satisfied us beyond a reasonable doubt of the guilt of the accused. This injunction we have strictly obeyed, but its observance has made it easier for us to become convinced of where guilt existed than to find indictments based upon legal evidence which we could say satisfied our minds beyond all reasonable doubt.

In more than one case crimes have apparently been committed, but some link in the chain of legal proof has been missing, and there has not seemed to be any means by which it could be supplied.

Investigations of this character necessarily require much time if they are to be thorough, and the labor expended cannot always be measured by the results. We have gone as far as we could in the time available. We are informed that subsequent grand

juries will continue the investigation. We do not believe that a continuance of our work during the short time remaining in this term would be of any public service.

The indicted ex-officials promptly appeared after the presentment was read and gave bail, Dr. Gillette in $10,000 and Mr. Granniss in $5,000. The witnesses whose testimony principally helped to indict them were Andrew C. Fields, Edgar W. Rogers, of the Lawrence stationery firm, and George McKibben, of George McKibben & Son, all of whom participated in the alleged crimes and turned State's evidence to save themselves.

The grand jury has adjourned and District Attorney Jerome has gone away on his vacation. He is reported as saying that when he returns and resumes his labors in August he will take up other branches of the affairs of the Mutual Life for investigation, and will eventually follow with similar inquiries concerning the New York Life and Equitable Life.

Counsel for Dr. Gillette applied on Wednesday to the Supreme Court for permission to inspect the minutes of the grand jury, and the application was granted.

A Crisis in San Francisco—The Companies Break on a Compromise Plan of Settlement.

At a meeting of fire insurance companies at San Francisco on Tuesday it was decided, by a vote of 61 to 32, to stand by the resolutions adopted at the meeting of companies in New York city on May 31, and to deduct not less than 25 per cent. flat from each policy or from claim if less than face of policy. This 25 per cent. deduction applies to cases in which the New York resolutions recommended "a reasonable compromise." They read as follows:

"Third—a. Where policies covered buildings (and/or their contents) which were probably bnt not certainly so damaged by earthquake as to be brought within the provisions of the fallen building clause; or

"b. Where policies covered buildings (and/or their contents) which had suffered from shock of earthquake, but not to such an extent as to bring them within the provisions of the fallen building clause; or

"c. Where policies covered buildings (and/or their contents) which had been damaged or destroyed by the authorities, civil and/or military, before fire had reached them; or

"d. Where policies covered property whose owners, by reason of the destruction of their books and records, are unable to supply the proofs of value required by the conditions of their insurance policies. In all such cases claims should be settled by a reasonable compromise."

The companies which voted for the resolutions were the following:

Northwestern National, North German of New York, Security of Baltimore, Insurance Company of North America, Alliance of Philadelphia, Aachen and Munich, Hanover, Germania, Milwaukee Mechanics, Agricultural, Spring Garden, Delaware, Globe and Rutgers, American Fire of Philadelphia, Svea of Sweden, Law Union and Crown, Union of London, Victoria of New York, Caledonian, Rochester German, Scotch Underwriters, Providence-Washington, Royal Exchange, Austrian Phœnix, Concordia, National Fire of Hartford, Transatlantic, Federal of Jersey City, German of Peoria, Firemans Fund, Equitable of Providence, Queen City, Traders of Chicago, American of Newark, Franklin Fire of Philadelphia, Fire Association of Philadelphia, Philadelphia Underwriters, United Firemens, Michigan Fire and Marine, Hamburg-Bremen, Home Fire and Marine, Niagara, Prussian National, Pacific Underwriters, Colonial Underwriters, British American, British America, Western of Toronto, National Union, Eagle, Phenix of Brooklyn, Pennsylvania Fire, Union of Philadelphia, Glen Falls, Westchester Fire, Security of New Haven, Camden Fire, Buffalo German, American of Boston, Dutchess, Girard Fire and Marine, New York Fire, North River, New Brunswick, Nassau of Brooklyn, Scottish Union and National, Western Underwriters, German of Freeport, German National, Calumet, Atlanta-Birmingham, Austin of Texas.

The companies which voted in the negative, and which, it is understood, will pay claims regardless of the 25 per cent. cut, are the Ætna of Hartford, California of San Francisco, Mercantile of Boston, American Central of St. Louis, St. Paul Fire and Marine, Continental of New York, Atlas of London, Kings County, Springfield of Massachusetts, New Zealand, North British and Mercantile, Liverpool and London and Globe, Sun of London, Northern of London, Phœnix of London, Pelican of New York, London Assurance Corporation, New York Underwriters, Orient of Hartford, State of Liverpool, Hartford Fire, Citizens of St. Louis, Home of New York, Connecticut Fire, New Hampshire, Queen of New York, Royal of Liverpool, Teutonia, London and Lancashire, English-American Underwriters and the Individual Underwriters.

Ten companies, which were not represented at the gathering, have so far not recorded their position in the matter.

The announcement was made on Thursday that it is the intention of the California Insurance Commissioner to revoke the licenses of the companies which do not pay loss claims in full. Attorney General Webb said: "Under the law of California the State Insurance Commissioner summarily revokes the license of any insurance company for the State when there is a cause. Certainly the payment of only 75 per cent. of losses would be cause. And not only would it be proof of unsoundness and unfitness to do business, but it would be the plainest evidence of dishonesty."

The intolerant attitude of the San Francisco people and press and of the Insurance Department toward the insurance companies is causing much feeling among Eastern underwriters there. Vice President Atwood, of the Rochester German, who is chairman of the adjustment committee, says:

I am amazed at the hostility in evidence against the insurance men here. Here I find a flood of abuse, of charges of crookedness, and suggestions that "insurance men should be in San Quentin," with a tide of hostility that is amazing, all sweeping against the insurance companies who are trying to settle their affairs here. Insurance men are business men. They are not orators. They are not going into print. But I am inclined to break over and say to all in California that the insurance men are not to be bulldozed nor hounded into any settlements that are not just nor fair nor reasonable. I know that insurance men and companies will pay every dollar for which they are liable. They will most certainly not pay earthquake losses, and that may as well be announced here and now as at any time. I repeat that earthquake losses most certainly will not be paid, and that a great host of photographers, amateur and professional, provided the insurance men with indisputable proof of earthquake losses, and that the insurance men have this material, to be used in the adjustment of claims. The insurance people propose to do what is fair and right. They do not propose to do anything else.

President James Nichols, of the National Fire of Hartford, who is on the spot, says:

We are justified in making this cut. The situation here is different than it has been in a fire. Every house on which we carried a risk was damaged by the earthquake. This damage may have been slight, but it was such that all policies would have had to be decreased if the buildings had not burned just then. The houses lost in value from the time the earthquake occurred until the fire swept them away. Furthermore, when we assumed the risks on these buildings San Francisco had fire protection; it had a water supply ample to combat a fire of whatever proportion, and it had a fire department of the first class. The earthquake destroyed the first and made the second almost useless. The protection we had counted on when we assumed the risks was wrecked by an element upon which we took no chance. Now we are asked to waive all our clauses of exemption and to pay the claims against us without even making a close and thorough inspection of them. If we do this, I think we are entitled to consideration, and I do not think that a cut of 25 per cent. is too large for this concession.

It is all very well to cry for a payment of dollar for dollar, but we have our other policyholders to keep in mind. We have their interests to guard, and we must take the view which is most just and equitable. If any of our policyholders who lost in

the San Francisco fire do not care to take this cut they are not compelled to.

Mr. B. T. Clemons, of Cincinnati, says:

The impression has gone out that the San Francisco sufferers are not being fairly treated by the insurance companies, but the facts in the case are that the people of San Francisco are making unreasonable demands, and have both hands and both feet out to rake in the money. They have received millions from the Government and private aid, and are now intent on breaking up the insurance companies doing business there. The companies are willing to pay the legitimate losses there. They will pay all fire losses upon adjustment, and possibly the loss occasioned by fire as a direct result of the earthquake. The dynamite loss will also probably be paid, but with the right of the companies to collect back from the authorities for any useless destruction of property.

But if the people there continue their unreasonable attitude I would not be surprised if the insurance people gave up trying to reach an agreement, and, picking up bag and baggage, withdrew from the State altogether. The people then could whistle for their money or collect it through the courts as best they can. Of course such extreme measures would be but a last resort, but the insurance people are getting exasperated at the greed of the 'Frisco sufferers.

COMMISSIONER WOLF DEMANDS THE LISTS.

Insurance Commisisoner Wolf has issued the following notice to insurance companies concerned in the San Francisco losses:

GENTLEMEN—Pursuant to authority granted by Sections 597 and 597A of the Political Code, I herewith make demand upon you to furnish me within the time prescribed by law, in writing, a full and complete list of all policies of insurance issued by you on property and risks located in the city and county of San Francisco, State of California, which policies were in full force and effect and had not expired on April 17, 1906. Such list must show the number of each policy, name in which the policy was issued, the amount for which it was issued, the nature and description of the property on which the policy was written, or the nature of the risk assumed by the company, the location of the property, the residence of the insured and the form or class of such policy as designated on the policy of the company. Said list must be accompanied by the several forms of policies so designated and classified by the company, and the forms of riders, if any, attached to each particular form of policy; and you are further requested to furnish any and all other data pertinent to the demand herein made. You are hereby notified that if you fail or neglect to comply with this request, within ten days of the date hereof, the provisions of the law applicable in such instances will be enforced.

Very truly yours, E. MYRON WOLF,
Insurance Commissioner.

Most of the Philadelphia companies have notified Commissioner Wolf that they will not furnish the lists. So has the Eagle Fire of New York. It will withdraw from California, as will the Germania Fire of New York.

E. E. Potter, Pacific manager of two insurance companies, visited Commissioner Wolf on Wednesday and protested vigorously against his demand for lists of policies.

"We cannot place our lists at the mercy of insurance brokers and others," said Mr. Potter, "and if you persist in your demand we will draw out of California at once."

Other companies have given signs of an intention to quit California.

A dispatch from Carson City, Nev., says that Insurance Commissioner Davis of Nevada threatens to expel all companies from his State which do not pay losses in full at San Francisco.

The New York Times Justifies the Proposed Compromise Settlement at San Francisco.

(New York Times Editorial Yesterday.)

Whoever regards an insurance policy like a promissory note of course can condemn offhand the proposed settlement of San Francisco losses by a discount of 25 per cent. But most people, we imagine, will see distinctions which make the case less open to snap judgment. There are practically no defenses to a promissory note upon maturity. There remains nothing but to calculate the amount and pay or refuse to pay. But a policy is an obligation to pay only in certain conditions, and the occurrence of those conditions is not beyond dispute in the case of San Francisco.

It has been said that thousands of claims have been filed under oath, and that loss by earthquake was not admitted in any one case in which the company could plead earthquake as a defense. Most persons will think that some of those cases were earthquake losses in some degree, and the insurance companies will think so more strongly than anybody else. Then there are many cases in which the loss was certainly due to official destruction by dynamite and not to fire. The owner is certainly a loser, but is his recourse against the insurance companies or against the city, which in turn has the right to impose a "general average" by which the property which escaped would contribute something to abate the loss of those who suffered in order that the others might escape? This does not exhaust the list of puzzling questions. How obscure and difficult the matter is appears from the fact that the insurance companies themselves were unable to agree upon the compromise offer. Sixty-one companies think the proposal fair, and thirty-two refuse to scale down their losses.

We can suppose that there will be a similar difference of opinion among the sufferers regarding accepting the proposal. It is clear that they have their option about it. The companies cannot exclude anybody from asserting his rights in court. What the policyholders have to consider is how they will fare in the courts. First, there is the payment of lawyers, who will be expensive if they are good. Then there is the delay, which will be considerable, even if the court proceedings are a friendly adjustment of differences of opinion or for discovery of facts. A loser who is sure his case is perfectly clear will probably refuse any discount, and so will those who imagine that they can force a doubtful case to a satisfactory settlement. The companies will make their offer in vain to such claimants. But in cases which are honestly doubtful, either through the obscurity of the facts or the conflict of equities, a practical man might easily think his advantage lay in acceptance. Having regard to doubtful cases we think the proposal is reasonable. And there are bad cases which can be settled under the proposal which could not be carried successfully through the courts. Since the proposal is not compulsory upon cases where 100 per cent. liability is perfectly clear and recoverable, and since everybody is left to his judgment as to which class his case falls in, we fail to see how the companies are open to criticism for their procedure. It may be poor business policy, and those who are more liberal in paying even claims which might be defended are perhaps sure of their reward in future business. But that is a business consideration, apart from the merits of the proposal itself.

THE Fidelity and Casualty Company,

97-103 CEDAR STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

Assets, $7,683,067.93.

Capital and Surplus, $2,986,463.85.

Losses Paid to January 1, 1906, $21,742.060.27.

This Company grants Insurance as follows:
Bonds of Suretyship for persons in positions of trust,
Fidelity Bonds, Burglary, Plate Glass,
Steam Boiler, Flywheel, Employers',
Public, Teams, Workmen's Collective,
Elevator and General Liability;
Personal Accident, Health and
Bonded Attorneys' List.

OFFICERS:

GEORGE F. SEWARD, President,
ROBERT J. HILLAS, Vice-President-Secretary.
HENRY CROSSLEY, Assistant Secretary.
FRANK E. LAW, Second Assistant Secretary.
GEORGE W. ALLEN, Third Assistant Secretary.

The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co

OF MILWAUKEE

ORGANIZED 1857

H. L. PALMER. President C. H. WATSON, Secretary

Growth of Company

Year	Insurance in Force
1866	$ 15,041,082
1886	110,710,861
1906	764,266,187

Business of 1905 largest in history of Company. Purely Mutual, and transacts business only in the United States.

During 1905 The Northwestern paid $6,489,-060.83 in dividends to policy-holders; a larger amount than was ever paid in dividends by any company in the world, regardless of size, in a single year up to 1905.

Increase in new business during 1905, over 20%.

Expenses and taxes to total income during 1905, only 14%.

Administrative expenses during 1905, only 4.02%.

No compensation paid to officers other than their salaries.

No syndicate participations. No bank or trust company stocks.

Neither Company nor Officers interested in any flotation of securities.

Hence Best Results to Policy-Holders.

Most Attractive Policies.

Issues Partnership and Corporation Insurance.

For further information or an Agency, address:

H. F. NORRIS,
Superintendent of Agencies.

CONSERVATIVE
PROGRESSIVE
FAITHFUL

¶ Some of the cardinal aims of the *Union Mutual* management are—to be conservative in the choice of investments—to be progressive in the prosecution of the business—to be faithful to the interests of policy-holders.

Agents of like inclination cordially welcomed.

Union Mutual Life Ins. Co.

Portland, Maine

FRED E. RICHARDS, *Pres.* ARTHUR L. BATES, *Vice-Pres.*

For Territory address either

EDSON D. SCOFIELD, Superintendent, 180 Broadway, N. Y. City.
THORNTON CHASE, Superintendent, 84 Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41 (Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endownment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.

Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

INCORPORATED 1851.

Berkshire Life Insurance Company

OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.

All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.

JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.

Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.
Head Office for the United States, 47 Cedar St., N. Y.
A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.
A. D. IRVING, JR., Sec.

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agencie
WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

Provident Savings Life Assurance Society

OF NEW YORK.

TIMOTHY L. WOODRUFF, PRESIDENT.

THE BEST COMPANY FOR POLICY HOLDERS AND AGENTS.

SUCCESSFUL AGENTS, AND GENTLEMEN SEEKING REMUNERATIVE BUSINESS CONNECTIONS, MAY APPLY TO THE HEAD OFFICE, OR ANY OF THE SOCIETY'S GENERAL AGENTS.

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

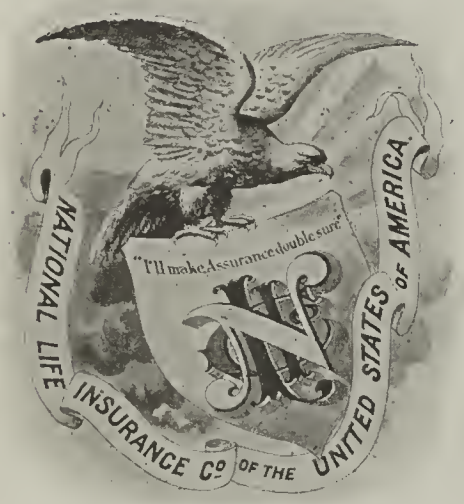
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Of the U. S. of A.



Home Office
NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ALBERT M. JOHNSON, President
ROBERT E. SACKETT, Vice-President
ROBERT D. LAY, Secretary
CHAS. B. SHEDD, Treasurer

Admitted assets, $6,092,500.46
Ins. in force - 43,336,600.78
Full paid capital, 1,000,000.00

Policy Contracts Liberal and Up to Date.

Exceptional Inducements offered to wideawake Agents.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1906

OF HARTFORD, CONN.,

Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance. The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy. Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.

JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

For a DEFINITE PROMISE to PAY, well defined, no experiment and taking no chances that technical legal definitions of what constitutes an accident will be used to defeat claims, BUY YOUR INSURANCE in and SELL the policies of

"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.

For particulars address **The Central Accident Ins. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

Capital, $2,500,000. AGENTS WANTED.

SURETY ON BONDS.

American Surety Co.,

100 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK.

Capital, $2,500,000.

STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Resources (including Capital, $2,500,000)	$6,193,137.53
Liabilities (including Reserve, $856,188.70)	1,347,671.23

HENRY D. LYMAN, *President.* W. S. JOHNSTON, *Vice-President.*

Telephone : Cortlandt 5395.

Massachusetts Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED 1851

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

ASSETS January 1, 1906,	$40,082,953.35
LIABILITIES,	36,716,579.77
SURPLUS,	3,366,373.58

Definite Paid-up and Cash Surrender Values Written in Every Policy.

JOHN A. HALL, Pres. HENRY M. PHILLIPS, Vice-Pres.
WM. W. MCCLENCH, Sec'd Vice-Pres. WM. H. SARGEANT, Sec.

New York Office: 610 Empire Building, 71 Broadway.

HANOVER

Agencies in all the Principal Places in the United States.

Fire Insurance Company
OF NEW YORK.

Connecticut General Life Insurance Co.

HARTFORD, CONN.

R. W. HUNTINGTON, Jr., . *President.*
GEORGE E. BULKLEY, . *Secretary and Actuary.*
E. B. PECK, . . . *Assistant Secretary.*
W. W. KNIGHT, M. D., . *Medical Adviser.*

INCORPORATED 1799.

Providence Washington Insurance Company.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

GERMANIA

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
NEW YORK.
ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE
Cor. William and Cedar t reets

THERE'S A REASON.....
why the agents of the
Continental Casualty Company
CHICAGO, ILL..
have been able to build for it the largest personal disability insurance business in America.
If you would share in the prosperity of CONTINENTAL representatives, address
H. G. B. ALEXANDER, PRES. AND GEN. MGR.
1208 MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.

Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.
CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

Insurance solicitors of character and ability, having a record for quality rather than quantity, can secure good territory and a liberal contract by addressing

C. H. JACKSON, Agency Secretary

HOME OFFICE

National Life Insurance Co.

MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Established in 1850. Operating in 44 States.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, President.
JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President.
JAMES B. ESTEE, 2d Vice-President.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary.
H. M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
A. B. BISBEE, Medical Director.
C. E. MOULTON, Actuary.
F. A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1906, and gained during the past decade:

Assets	$34,519,093.04	Gain, 184 per cent.
Surplus	3,821,752.51	Gain, 165 per cent.
Insurance	145,480,904.00	Gain, 109 per cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.
A. H. GSELLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

The Empire State Surety Co.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK
391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*
WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, Jr., . *President*
EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

The Union Insurance Company

OF PHILADELPHIA.

CAPITAL, - - $200,000

STATEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1906.

Total Assets	$718,168
Total Liabilities	366,834
Surplus to Policyholders	351,334

WILLIAM MUIR, President.
E. R. DANNELS, Secretary.
M. JOS. NOWLAN, Assistant Secretary.

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,
CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$50,019,667.03
Liabilities	41,289,151.01
Gross Surplus	8,730,516.02

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.
Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.

United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906		$13,015,852
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,389,121	
Capital Stock	3,000,000	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,731	$13,015,852

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.

LIMITED,

OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$2,960,364
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,603,103
Joint Stock Capital	500,000

Exceptional Inducements

are

Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

The Mutual Life

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

Applications may be sent to

GEORGE T. DEXTER

Second Vice-President

32 Nassau Street, New York City

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1906. No. 25.

Published every Saturday by the Underwriter Printing and Publishing Company.

Subscription price: Five Dollars per annum in advance.

All communications should be addressed to THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER, 58 William Street, New York.

Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

A PRIVATE dispatch from a prominent Eastern fire underwriter in San Francisco to his home office estimates the "claims" which are being made for losses in the fire at $263,000,000. Doubtless the pressure behind this enormous over-demand on the insurance companies has all to do with the growing acuteness of the adjustment situation there. But the noisy threats of the Governor of California and the clamor of the loss claimants and local newspapers should not move the insurance companies one jot from their stand to pay all claims strictly on their merits and not on unproved allegations of loss. It looks very much as if the expectation in San Francisco is to frighten the underwriters, by the beating of gongs and the shrill sounding of wind instruments, into a condition of panic in which all efforts to protect the interests of their unburned policyholders in other parts of the country and of their stockholders will be precipitately abandoned. The studied determination to misrepresent the position of the companies proposing—in the absence of nearly all the normal methods of proving loss by the extraordinary destruction of evidence—to compromise claims on the basis of immediate settlement is evidence of this policy of terrorism. Such a method of adjustment was not made obligatory on the insured. The proposition offered a choice to the claimant to recognize the uncertainty and precariousness of his proofs, and meet the company on the basis of mutual concessions for a cash settlement or take his proofs to court. There is nothing unusual in this. It is a custom of the trade. If the claimants prefer litigation let them have it.

THE London *Commercial World,* in an editorial article which we transfer to our columns, takes the view that a new and dangerous force has been imparted to life insurance competition by the action of the North British and Mercantile insurance company in issuing, by circular, an invitation to the policyholders of another company to abandon it in a body and become members of that making the proposal. It may be remarked for this side of the water that despite the fiercest competition that may have been raging, there has never been an instance of a reputable life insurance company taking the extraordinary course of the life department of the North British and Mercantile. Forbidden twisting by individual agents has been rife enough unfortunately, but no company yet has been so insensible of the comity and fair play that should obtain among corporations engaged in an honorable calling as to make a wholesale grab by proclamation for the policyholders of another in the business. It would be impossible to conceive of that sort of thing between the Mutual and Equitable, for instance. Our London contemporary claims to voice a prevailing sentiment among life underwriters in its country when it says of the conduct of the North British and Mercantile:

> On all sides, and from the highest professional authority to the least pretentious practitioner in the business, the predominant feeling is that a bad example is being set, and that we are likely to suffer severely in lands beyond the seas if this new and objectionable element in insurance competition is not severely reprobated and stamped out. We cannot believe that life assurance business will ever be degraded into a scramble for other people's property, and we cling to a conviction that the life offices of this country will continue to take their duties and responsibilities too seriously to permit them to countenance a form of competition which would discredit the rivalries of suburban haberdashers.

These expressions do credit to the moral sense of our esteemed contemporary, and of those for whom it speaks, and the rebuke may have the effect of preventing a repetition of a transgression which is not likely ever to be followed in America.

IN the revision of the life insurance laws which is now very generally impending we are disposed to believe that the recommendations of the special commission to recodify the Massachusetts insurance statutes, reported this week, will exert a larger influence than any other factor in sight. The commission has adhered to Massachusetts traditions in the main, but it has recognized the necessity of meeting new conditions without proceeding to the more or less empirical extremes of the Armstrong legislation in New York. While insurance experts cannot be expected to agree with the commission upon every one of its propositions, they will accept them, as a whole, we think, as embodying a better combination of conservatism with progress, than will any other scheme that will probably be put forth during this formative period. To touch briefly upon particulars, the Massachusetts draft adopts as cardinal principles the fullest publicity in the life insurance business and the maintenance of the present system of net valuation of policies in determining the reserve to be held by companies. It bars estimates, bonuses to agents, pensions, the pecuniary interest of directors and officers in purchases for and sales to their companies, the issuing of non-participating policies by companies issuing the participating sort, political contributions and deferred dividends after January 1, 1908. It recommends as new features in the insurance laws, the gain and loss exhibit, annual accounting of dividends and provisional apportionment of surplus, the creation of a State board of accountants and the regulation of the business of chartered accountants, with the view of compelling companies to adopt a uniform system of accounts, to be approved by the Insurance Commissioner, and the auditing of all books, accounts and reports by such certified public accountants; the appointment of State directors on the boards of mutual companies, the separation in the accounts of companies doing both ordinary and industrial business, authorization of all loans and investments by boards of directors and limitation of invest-

ments in stock of any one company to ten per cent. of its capital. Having laid down these affirmative propositions as the basis of reformatory legislation, the commission proceeds to exclude and reject a large part of the more salient provisions of the new insurance legislation in the State of New York. At one fell swoop it casts away the select and ultimate method of valuation, limitation by law of amount of expenses, limitation of expenses to loading, limitation of amount of business, compulsory standard forms of policies, compulsory surrender values before the third year, restriction of investments to certain classes of property and securities, punishment of receivers of rebates, restriction of directors from being directors of other companies, voting for directors by mail and publication of lists of policyholders. In proposing remedial legislation the Massachusetts revisionists have had the advantage of "the second sober thought." Their perspective has been broader, and they have thus been enabled to avoid some of the errors which even now the New York legislators must perceive, and which will be subject to repeal, as Inquisitor Hughes admits, when the snow falls at Albany again. We have no doubt that the work of the Massachusetts Commission will be felt in the national convention of the insurance commissioners in September and in the State legislatures next winter.

Facts and Opinions.

Cotton is being **written in New York** only at exorbitant rates, one company being offered as high as ten times the tariff rate. Even this is considered a gamble by the more conservative managers. More than one underwriter has expressed the intention to keep off of cotton entirely until "conditions are improved." As has been previously announced, Blagden, Kelly & Fuller have ceased writing cotton entirely for their companies. The Krum and Forster companies are fighting shy of the Staten Island warehouses, and the London Assurance Corporation is keeping off altogether. The Globe and Rutgers is writing at very high rates. On Thursday a conference was held between the storage warehouse committee of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange and committees from the Cotton Exchange and the cotton warehousemen to ascertain what methods could be used to improve cotton as a risk, and it was decided that the Insurance Exchange should furnish to the Cotton Exchange committee detailed information as to the needed improvements on specified warehouses. This should in time work out much good to the trade and underwriters combined. The three successive fires at the American Dock Company's stores on Staten Island from May 25 to June 11 have been most disastrous to the business of the dock company, and this week fire underwriters have cancelled every policy covering the $20,000,000 of insurance carried on the cotton stored there. The natural result has been that lighters and all kinds of craft usually chartered for carrying this class of commodity have had a busy week, and in a few days it is predicted little cotton will be left in the company's warehouses. Two theories were developed by the investigation of the underwriters, one being that the employees of the storehouses were careless about smoking and the other that an incendiary had been at work. It is said that a ball of cotton soaked in kerosene and thrust into a bale would in a few days cause a fire by spontaneous combustion. At any rate the underwriters are taking no further chances.

The following official statement concerning the essays to be entered in **competition for the Calef and Ben Williams** prizes has been issued by Secretary Clark, of the National Association of Life Underwriters:

The topic selected for the prize essays for the year 1906 is: "The Relation of the Public Press to American Life Insurance." The essays are limited to 1,000 words each. As many members of local associations may join in the competition as such organization may select. Each essayist will place his name in a sealed envelope bearing a number corresponding to the number on the envelope containing his essay, and forward both envelopes in one enclosure to E. J. Clark, secretary, 1041 to 1051 Calvert Building, Baltimore, not later than September 5, 1906. The writer of the essay judged to be of the highest excellence will receive the Calef Loving Cup as custodian of the same for his association, and it will bear his name and that of his association, together with the date of its presentation. The cup will be held by him for his association until the succeeding annual meeting of the National Association. The writer of the essay adjudged to be second in merit will receive the Ben Williams Vase, under the same conditions of holding as obtain in connection with the first prize. Should the association for which either prize is held dissolve or withdraw from the National Association, the prize shall thereupon be returned to the executive committee of the National Association. All essays submitted in competition shall become the property of the National Association, with the right of publication. It is the earnest hope of the executive committee that this interesting and important feature of the National Association will be participated in by a large number of the membership of each association, so that the highest and best results may be realized. The committee of award, which will pass upon the merits of the respective essays, will consist of Edson P. Rich, chairman, general counsel of the Union Pacific Railroad, Omaha; B. R. Meyer, professor of political economy and insurance at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis., and Dr. J. E. Harry, professor of Greek literature of the University of Cincinnati, and dean of the College of Liberal Arts, Cincinnati, all of whom are gentlemen of unusual literary eminence. Their report will be presented at the annual convention of the National Association, which will meet at St. Louis on October 23, 24 and 25, next.

The members of the **former expenditures committee of the Mutual Life** insurance company, Robert Olyphant, Charles E. Miller and James C. Holden, resigned from the board of trustees this week. The company now has suits against them for accounting and restitution. Maurice Untermyer, a brother of the lawyer, is representing the so called International Policyholders' Protective Association in Europe, and has succeeded in organizing a German co-operative committee to act in conjunction with the Bowles-Untermyer-Lawson combination here. Mr. Untermyer is arranging for meetings with Mutual Life policyholders in other countries, to organize them for the same purpose. A report having been printed in New York on the authority of a London cable despatch that but $60,000 of insurance had deserted the Mutual Life for the North British and Mercantile in England, a London correspondent of the New York *Times* telegraphs:

Nobody knows precisely what the amount of the British defection from the Mutual will be. Very likely the transfers to the North British completed and brought to the attention of the Mutual last month did not run above the figures stated, but my information is that the North British has been instructed to prepare transfer papers for a great number of Mutual policyholders, and that the amount of these policies is very large. It takes time to get a policy exchanged. In the first place, the policyholder submits his Mutual policy to a North British actuary. He will do well if he gets the actuary's proposition touching the policy inside of three weeks, for each policy is considered by itself, and several thousands of the Mutual's people have asked for propositions. If the policyholder decides to accept the North British offer, the transfer papers must be prepared, and maybe a month will elapse before the exchange is effected. It may be the end of July before the Mutual will know how badly it has been hurt.

On Tuesday of this week our energetic friend, Mr. Edwin D. Boldman, tendered his resignation as **Eastern general manager of the Pacific Mutual Life insurance company.** His contract calls for ninety days' notice, but he is trying to conclude arrangements to be relieved earlier if possible. During the four months Mr. Boldman has been with the Pacific Mutual he has succeeded in producing a handsome increase of business notwithstanding the fact that he has been handicapped for lack of supplies with which to do business. Mr. Boldman is a casualty man of no small experience, having

had several years of successful underwriting as well as thorough training as field man and organizer. As supervisor of agencies of the Travelers for Ohio he gave them over $211,000 in paid for personal accident and health premiums, an increase of over $35,000 for 1904. On April 1, 1905, Mr. Boldman went with the New Amsterdam Casualty Company as manager of the central department at Columbus, Ohio. Before going with the Travelers he was general agent of the Union Casualty and Surety Company for Ohio, West Virginia and western Pennsylvania, with headquarters in Pittsburgh. The Pacific Mutual has not yet announced Mr. Boldman's successor. Mr. Boldman expects to take a brief vacation, and will announce his future plans later.

An accounting of their stewardship has been demanded by Franklin J. Moore, United States manager at Philadelphia for the General Accident of Perth, **from Muir & Haughton,** late managers of the Scottish corporation for this country. A bill of complaint against the firm has been filed in the Circuit Court of Philadelphia to secure an accounting of moneys received by the former managers, and to compel the return of all books, files and papers of the company used in the conduct of the business. The bill seeks an injunction restraining Muir & Haughton from holding an appointment as agent, broker or manager of any corporation engaged in the business of casualty, burglary or fidelity insurance for a period of two years from April 11, 1906, according to the stipulations of their contract with the General Accident. That company has recently been chartered in the Dominion under the title of the General Accident Assurance Company of Canada, with a capital of $100,000. The head office of the new company will be at Toronto, and liability, accident and health insurance will be written. Mr. Moore will have the assistance of Mr. W. G. Falcner and Mr. C. Norrie-Miller, son of the company's general manager, to look after the Canadian business.

The **New York Life insurance company,** in compliance with the new insurance laws of the State, has arranged the following **new contract with its agents:**

Upon all ordinary life policies a commission on the first year of insurance, at the rate of 40 per cent., and a commission on the renewal premiums for the second to the sixth year of insurance, both inclusive, at the rate of 5 per cent. a year. Upon all limited payment life policies paid by ten or more annual premiums, and upon all endowment and other forms of policies paid by twenty or more annual premiums, the commission for the first year of insurance shall be such a per cent. of the premium as will yield in amount a sum equal to 40 per cent. of the premium for an ordinary life policy of the same amount and at the same age, and a commission on the renewal premiums for the second to the sixth year of insurance, both inclusive, at the rate of 5 per cent. Upon endowment policies for ten or fifteen years the original commission is the same, but the renewal commissions for five years are only 3 per cent. It is specially provided that after an agent has been in the employ of the company for two years the renewal commissions shall be extended to cover the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth years of insurance, making a total of nine renewals.

It is understood that the new contracts with old agents which do not have to be entered into until January 1, 1907, will offer somewhat better terms than the above, but they will be within the limits, of course, of the Armstrong law.

Robberies at fires in New York are frequently attributed by the police to the firemen, and by the firemen, in turn, to the insurance patrol. It is a well known fact, however, that at every fire there are many persons allowed inside the fire limits who have no right there, but who have in one way or another received badges or police permits. The presence of crooks at every large fire is thereby accounted for. An effort was made this week by the police to confiscate the badges of all persons found within the lines. Fire Commissioner O'Brien has received a number of indignant letters because of the way the writers had been held up and robbed of their badges—which are their personal property—at a recent small fire in West Forty-sixth street. Whenever a policeman saw a badge, it was alleged, he seized it. "It's orders," was the only explanation given. It is a rather general opinion that there are more badges out than are necessary which should be in some way recalled. In no case is it thought right to seize the badges indiscriminately and without making careful inquiry as to the right of the wearer to own one.

The following sub-committees have been created and chairmen appointed by Insurance Commissioner O'Brien, of Minnesota, the chairman of the recent **conference of insurance commissioners,** to consider the various questions connected with the proposed uniform insurance law:

Standard Forms of Policies, A. I. Vorys, of Ohio, chairman.

Annual Accounting and Distribution, Zeno M. Host, Wisconsin, chairman.

Prohibition of Political Contributions, Reau E. Folk, Tennessee, chairman.

Investments, H. R. Prewitt, Kentucky, chairman.

Policy to Contain Entire Contract, and Agent to be Held Agent of Company, George H. Adams, New Hampshire, chairman.

Prohibition of False Estimates and Misrepresentations, B. F. Crouse, Maryland, chairman.

Election of Directors, J. L. Pierce, Nebraska, chairman.

Conversion of Stock into Mutual Companies, John E. Bird, Michigan, chairman.

Temporary Stock Plan, E. M. Wolf, California, chairman.

Participating Companies Not to Do Non-Participating Business, W. D. Vandiver, Missouri, chairman.

Salaries of Officers When Fixed by Directors, and Vouchers, R. E. Folk, Tennessee, chairman.

Annual Reports, B. F. Carroll, Iowa, chairman.

Regulation of Fraternal and Assessment Co-operative Companies, E. T. Young, Minnesota, chairman.

That certain of the insured at **San Francisco** who expected to realize from the insurance companies for the **dynamiting of buildings** on their property, blew up the buildings, not necessarily in the path of the fire, believing that they would have no trouble in securing payment of their losses, is one of the new developments of the situation on the Coast. A number of companies have in their possession affidavits properly sworn to, covering cases where property owners were heard to say that they blew up the buildings on purpose to collect the insurance. It is known that in several cases where buildings were dynamited in the excitement incident to the fire, the structures were not in the path of the flames and were destroyed without any authority whatever. To provide against being compelled to settle for losses occurring in this manner several companies have made a careful investigation, with the result that an evident attempt to mulct the companies has been discovered. As it is, the liability of the companies to pay for so called legitimate dynamite damage is an unsettled matter.

According to advices from San Francisco, R. W. Hosmer, of Chicago, representing the **American of Boston,** has arrived at Oakland for the purpose of settling with the policyholders of that company on the basis of 40 cents on the dollar, and estimates its **San Francisco losses** at $1,200,000, with $200,000 reinsurance. Secretary Bean, of the American, says that Mr. Hosmer has been given a free hand to make settlements on the best terms possible. At the time the American reinsured its business in the Firemen's of Newark, it did not receive authority to do so from the Massachusetts Insurance Department, until it had stated to that department its belief in its ability to pay its San Francisco losses in full. When a representative of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER recalled this to the deputy insurance commissioner on Thursday, that official replied that the department had no statement to make on the

matter. The first estimate of the American's losses was somewhat less than a million; its assets end of 1905 were $796,852, of which $89,168 was net surplus.

A program of great interest has been provided by the executive committee for the ninteenth annual convention of the **International Association of Accident Underwriters,** to be held at Hotel Champlain, Lake Champlain, N. Y., the four days beginning Tuesday, July 10, and closing on Friday the 13th. Among the addresses to be made are the following:

"Insurance Companies and Their Relation to the Public." By the Hon. James V. Barry, Insurance Commissioner of Michigan, and President of the National Convention of Insurance Commissioners.

"Insurance as a Part of a University Education." By F. C. Oviatt, Editor of the *Philadelphia Intelligencer.*

"Development of Health Insurance in North America." By Miles Menander Dawson, F. I. A.

"Origin and Development of Industrial Accident and Health Insurance in America." By V. D. Cliff, United States Health and Accident insurance company.

"Fraternal Accident Insurance." By the Hon. John J. Lentz, National President American Insurance Union.

The National Protective Legion of Waverly, N. Y., has applied at St. Paul, Minn., for an **injunction against Insurance Commissioner O'Brien,** alleging that he has refused to issue a license permitting the order to do business in the State of Minnesota. As a whole life policy is the only kind permitted to be used by fraternals in Minnesota, and the National Protective (?) Legion has endowment policies which the commissioner thinks are misrepresentations, the chances of a successful outcome of the fight are poor so far as the fraternal order is concerned. The society's prospectus claims to double $125 in five years' time. The writ is returnable in twenty days. The Grand Fraternity of Pennsylvania and the Modern Protective Association of Sayre, to which permission to operate in Minnesota has also been denied, are awaiting the outcome of the matter with interest.

The case of the State of Minnesota against **Judge W. A. Kerr,** former counsel of the Northwestern National Life, went up in smoke last week when the assistant county attorney, Mr. Dahl, moved the court to dismiss the cause. The assistant county attorney gave as his reason for the sudden termination of the action that the testimony of the former officials of the company had been disappointing to him. Judge Brooks then dismissed the case, and the other indictment against Judge Kerr was nolled. The indictment was one for embezzlement of $10,000, being money paid to Dr. Force, former president of the Northwestern National Life, who is now serving a three year and a half term for larceny of that company's funds. The charge was brought against Judge Kerr as one of the directors who authorized the money payment to Dr. Force.

A destructive fire started on the morning of June 14 in some bales of cotton stored in the yard of the Union Wadding Company's plant at Pawtucket, R. I., then spread to a one story frame storehouse, unsprinklered, which it consumed, together with 1,877 bales of cotton. From there it extended to a two story brick storehouse, sprinklered, where fifty-seven heads opened and held the fire. This is considered to be a remarkable instance of **automatic sprinklers checking a fire** which had gained so great a headway. The loss occasioned by this fire is estimated at about $60,000; the insurance attaching aggregates some $600,000. As a result of this fire it is suggested that bales of cotton should not be stored in open yards, but in sprinkler equipped storehouses only.

A convertible five year term policy has been issued by the **Mutual Benefit Life of Newark,** with several particularly good features. The policy may be changed during the first four years into a new life or endowment policy without another medical examination. The new contract will date from the issuing of the original term policy provided the difference in premiums between the two contracts be paid when the change is made. No restrictions as to residence, travel or occupation are imposed, and the policy is incontestable after two years, and pays annual dividends beginning with the second year. Liberal reinstatement features are contained in the policy, and final settlement may be made by a lump payment or the issuing of an annuity.

An upheaval has taken place at **St. Joseph, Mo.,** over the **breaking up of the Burnes agency,** which has so long been a storm centre there. The North British and Mercantile, the Northern and the Queen have transferred to Burnes & Henderson, but the Liverpool and London and Globe and the Royal declined to follow them, and went to John W. Brown. The Metropolitan and German transferred to F. A. H. Garlichs, and the Northern of New York to E. F. Hartzell. The American Lloyds transferred to W. H. Moeller, manager of the American Biscuit Company, which is causing considerable comment among the insurance men. The Burnes agency practically controlled the large sprinklered business in St. Joseph.

When the **controversy over the Corn Products line** came up, the Western Union notified its members that the rules prevented the acceptance of any of the business, even though full rate was offered, so long as part of it was being placed in outside companies at a cut. In consequence the brokers intimated a willingness to meet the requirements as to the placing of the business, but have not yet agreed to place all the business at the mandatory and advisory rates, and maintain policy forms and conditions. Union companies have again been urged by the governing committee to adhere to proper practices in the belief that they would soon bring the brokers into full compliance with all requirements.

After a series of conferences lasting for nearly two weeks, the executive committee of the General Managers' Association of the **Equitable Life** Assurance Society has agreed with the executive officials of the company on a **new commission scale** which will enable the Equitable to meet the requirements of the Armstrong Committee's legislation as regards the expenses of writing business. Equitable agents will get the 50 per cent. commission as a maximum on new premiums that the society has allowed them on most policies heretofore, and will have the nine renewal commissions of 7½ per cent. which the law allows on all classes of policies except endowment policies running fifteen years or less.

The **State Life of Indiana insurance company** is having many complications over its board plan and State Agency Company. The Indianapolis courts have restrained the State Agency Company from paying $250,000 to O. L. Van Laningham for his agency contract with the company. Cash to the amount of $140,000 has been drawn by the Agency Company, and the banks were restrained from permitting the collection of the drafts. Seven years ago Van Laningham obtained from the State Life a perpetual contract for writing insurance in Kansas, Nebraska, Texas, Oklahoma and Indian Territory, with a 7½ per cent. renewal basis.

A hearing was given in the New York City Hall this week on the recommendation of Fire Commissioner O'Brien

by the finance committee of the board of estimate and apportionment regarding an appropriation for a **new fire alarm system for the Borough of Manhattan,** based upon the report submitted by the New York Board of Fire Underwriters last September. The special committee of this body and its expert, Kempster B. Miller, urged the necessity of the new system. Others who appeared in favor of the proposition were the Merchants' Association of New York, the New York Board of Trade and Transportation, and the Retail Dealers' Association.

Three years and a half in the penitentiary was the sentence meted out to **Dr. Jacob F. Force,** former president and director of the Northwestern National Life of Minneapolis, on being convicted of larceny in the first degree. Judge C. F. Brooks sentenced him in the Hennepin County Court. The trouble arose from the consolidation in 1901 of the Mutual Life Association, of which W. F. Bechtel was president, with the Northwestern National Life. To obtain absolute control of affairs, Bechtel proposed to give Dr. Force $100,000, and of this amount $15,000 was paid in bank stock held by the Northwestern Company. For the larceny of this bank stock Dr. Force was convicted.

Two cats were the incendiaries which fired the house of William Mason, of Harrisburg, Pa., one day last week. He is Harrisburg agent for the Canada Life, and as a result of the fire thus set has just been able to get out after being laid up with badly burned arms and a cut foot. The cats overturned a lighted kerosene lamp on the top of a refrigerator and then fought it out. Meanwhile a rug ignited, and in throwing it from the room Mr. Mason burned his arms and cut his foot on the broken glass. The crash of the lamp awoke Mrs. Mason, and thus the fire was discovered before it made much headway. The incident illustrates a new kind of fire hazard.

No more burglary insurance, either of the dwelling or mercantile house variety, will be written in New York or Chicago hereafter by the **United States Fidelity and Guarantee Company.** The reason given is that so many new companies are entering the field of burglary insurance the commissions that have to be paid to brokers by the old companies to hold their business have been increasing greatly every year. The losses have also been very large of late, the two things combined making the business unprofitable. Six or seven companies have entered the field of burglary underwriting within the last six months.

Stop rebating was the admonition of President Charles W. Scovel of the National Association of Life Underwriters at Rochester on Tuesday evening when he addressed the **New York State Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents** at the twenty-fourth annual session of that body. Others who spoke were Lucius G. Leonard, of Syracuse, president of the association, and Vice President E. W. Beardsley, of Hartford, of the National Association. Officers were elected as follows: E. S. Hawley, Buffalo, president; R. S. Paviour, Rochester, vice president; Fred E. Swan, Elmira, secretary-treasurer.

The opening by mistake of a letter addressed to **Wheelock Harvey,** the messenger of the First National Bank of New York, who disappeared June 6 simultaneously with $85,000 in drafts belonging to the bank, caused his arrest on Saturday last at Fort Worth, Tex., where he was hiding his identity under the name of Daniel Martin. A real Daniel Martin received the letter and turned it over to the police when he realized that the addressee was a fugitive from justice. The youth says he returned all of the money except about $700. The United States Guarantee Company was his surety for $5,000.

Shareholders of the minority stock of the **Toronto Life insurance company,** which is to be merged with the Union Life, are complaining because the ruling has been so made that they can get only 50 cents on the dollar instead of 100 cents, to which they think they are entitled. A committee consisting of Dr. W. S. Harrison, S. A. Grant, G. E. Stacey, R. S. Beaver and David Queen, has been appointed to arrange for proxies and to call a formal meeting, protesting against the action of the Union Life in making any offer for stock unless a general meeting of the shareholders is called to discuss it.

In the cases of **the tax commissioners of New York** against the Continental and Northern insurance companies, decision has been given by the court for the companies. The cases were instituted to test whether the unearned premium fund may be deducted as a liability in making a statement for taxation purposes. This litigation has been in the courts a long time, and has been under the direction of Edward F. Beddall for the foreign companies, and Charles Lyman Case for the general companies. The decision in favor of the underwriters means a large annual saving to them.

A new manager for Greater New York in the personal accident department has been secured by the **Casualty Company of America** in the person of William A. Rogers, till recently engaged in mercantile agency work in Canada. Mr. Rogers is building up around himself a brand new agency force, which he is carefully selecting and schooling thoroughly in the accident business according to ideas he has worked out successfully himself. Although he has been in charge of the accident business for a short time only his methods have already been eminently successful.

The **Massachusetts** Senate this week passed to engrossment a bill providing for the appointment of a **chief of the boiler inspection department of the district police** and increasing the number of inspectors from ten to fifteen. The bill may have been helped along by the fact that the Brockton boiler explosion and fire of March 20, 1905, had been brought to mind but a few days before, when fifteen suits for damages, aggregating $300,000, were brought against R. B. Grover & Co., whose shoe manufacturing plant was wrecked by that catastrophe, with a loss of fifty-eight lives.

How to prevent fire loss was a question vigorously discussed at the eleventh annual convention held June 14 at Louisville, of the Kentucky Association of Fire Insurance Agents. Alfred Pirtle, president of the association, presided, and the address of welcome was made by Howard W. Hunter. Others who spoke were C. N. Benjamin and Young E. Allison. These officers were elected: Henry V. Davis, Louisville, president; George A. Armstrong, Shelbyville, first vice president; Fred Hummel, Louisville, secretary and treasurer.

There was **a little excitement in Greensboro, N. C.,** last week when E. Colwell, manager of the Greensboro Life insurance company, met T. N. Winslow, author of "Flute's Fancy." According to the Greensboro *Times,* Colwell approached Winslow, and abusing him was struck in the eye, the blow shattering the eyeglass and causing a big flow of blood. Colwell drew a gun, and, as it failed to go off, was

clubbing Winslow on the head when the town watch interfered. Neither party in the conflict was seriously hurt.

The American Surety Company on October 7, 1905, paid to the New York Polyclinic Medical School and College the sum of $2,500 by reason of its suretyship for George W. Curtiss, who was employed by the above institution as bookkeeper. His arrest was caused on October 14, 1905, and he has since been awaiting trial. He was tried before Judge Rosalsky, Court of General Sessions, Part III, New York city, and on June 15 was convicted of forgery in the third degree. He will be sentenced in a few days.

The **Life Underwriters' Association of Virginia** held its annual meeting and banquet in Richmond at the Jefferson Hotel on Monday last, and voted to invite the National Association to Richmond in 1907. President N. D. Sills was unanimously re-elected. The other officers chosen were Frank W. Adams, first vice president; George Bahlke, second vice president; C. G. Walker, secretary and treasurer; executive committee, W. S. Drewry, Garnett Tabb (re-elected) and A. P. Wilmer (re-elected).

The **People's Surety Company** of New York completed its first year May 31. It had assets of $625,000 at the start, and now shows $716,987.78, and a surplus of $154,000. The reserve is $59,000. The company's assets are invested in carefully selected bonds, bank stocks and first mortgages. A divisible profit was made last year of $29,000, an excellent showing for this progressive company's first year. Within a few weeks the management will place on the market an attractive line of personal accident policies.

The **National Association of Life Underwriters,** through its energetic executive committee, is having some trouble to secure **proper headquarters** and a convention hall for the gathering **in St. Louis** in October, owing to the Bankers' convention falling about the same time. It now looks as if the Olympic Theatre would be used for the convention, with the Jefferson Hotel as headquarters. No definite decision has been reached in the matter, however.

The **Fire Prevention Bureau of Cincinnati** has sent out a circular to companies regarding the situation there. It states that the investigations of experts show that the pumping machinery was in need of repair, which is now being made, and that by pushing the pumps the reservoir supply is steadily gaining. The expert says that the protection is in the same condition that it has been for the past five years, except that it has been given a little more notoriety just now.

The Nebraska tax controversy continues, the city assessor of Lincoln having refused to accept returns on the basis of the actual amount in the hands of agents April 1. In Omaha assessment on this basis prevails, but Lincoln and South Omaha have different charters, and the attorneys for the companies have advised that the payment be made on the basis insisted upon by Lincoln and South Omaha rather than have expensive litigation.

A new **self raising ladder** has been received by the Boston fire department, which can be elevated in thirty-three seconds. It is operated from a rubber covered platform, which shuts out all danger of anyone getting shocked if it should come in contact with electric light wires while in service. Its first trial was made in presence of the visiting mutual underwriters on Friday of last week, and the department intends getting two more like it.

Offices have already been opened at Phœnix, Ariz., for the **Home Fire of Phœnix,** which is organizing with a paid up capital stock of $100,000 and a surplus of $50,000. The company will write direct business in its home State, but will carry surplus lines in other States. The officers are Alexander Buck, of Phœnix, president; W. C. Hughes, of Chicago, secretary, and A. C. Haner, general manager.

With Rochester as its home, the **Liberty Fire insurance company** is being organized under New York laws. It will take over the Chemung Co-operative Fire insurance company and three other similar concerns, which will give the new company a good start with $4,000,000 of expirations. Rollison S. Bostwick, of Rochester, and Irwin Curtis, of Baltimore, are promoters of the new company.

Another meeting of the companies who joined last week and formed the **Plate Glass Underwriters' Association** was held Thursday at the office of the Metropolitan Casualty Company to perfect organization. The report of the committee appointed to draw up a standard form of policy was discussed, but no action taken, and the meeting adjourned to meet again at the call of the chair.

The committee in charge of the proposed **reduction of expenses in the large cities** of the West has completed the form of agreement to be signed by the companies. The first effort is to be made in Chicago, and P. D. McGregor, of the Queen, has been selected to secure the signatures of the Union companies, E. G. Halle, of the Germania, agreeing to do the same for the non-Union companies.

The capital of the **United States Health and Accident of Saginaw, Mich.,** has been increased from $200,000 to $300,000, and the company is considering the advisability of opening a life department in addition to its present lines of health and accident business provided its charter can be so amended as not to conflict with the laws of the various States which it proposes to enter.

The mutualization of the **Equitable Life** makes it incumbent on that company to follow out the Armstrong law provisions for a mutual company. This includes among other things the preparation of the **list of policyholders** as is being done in the case of eight New York companies at the present time. The Equitable has already taken steps to have the list prepared on time.

Marine underwriters will have to shoulder the loss for the wreck of the **British steamer Egyptian Prince** on the coast of Malta on April 21 last. At an inquiry just held there the court decided that Captain Armstrong Downs, who mistook his lights and thus ran on a submerged reef, was not to blame for the calamity, and that it was not his neglect that caused the disaster.

The San Francisco conflagration and its resultant changes have weakened the position of the **Surplus Line Association of Chicago.** Two of its twenty members have already retired, another has stopped writing all business in the congested districts, and with the present attitude of the companies toward surplus line business its field of usefulness seems to be limited.

The appointment has been announced of Mr. W. E. Mallalieu as **secretary of the new committee on fire protection,** which assumes the work of the Committee of Twenty of the National Board as well as of the committee on fire de-

partments and water supply. Mr. Mallalieu takes up the work of Mr. S. H. Lockett, the former secretary of the Committee of Twenty.

The Washington Insurance Department has begun proceedings against the agents of the **Mutual Reserve Life** under the anti-rebate law of 1905. Citizens of the State complained that they were induced to take out advisory board policies, promising them a rebate on insurance written through their aid. This is held to be in violation of the anti-rebate law.

The fire department committee of the Chicago council heard the charges preferred by **Mayor Dunne against Chief Campion,** of the fire department, and declared him not guilty by a vote of five to two. His reinstatement will be recommended to the council, where a two-thirds vote will be required. The friends of Chief Campion expect to be able to secure this.

Under the provisions of the **new anti-lobbying law** passed by the late session of the New York Legislature, the Fidelity and Casualty Company of New York has filed with the Secretary of State at Albany a statement of its legislative expenses, amounting to $157.60 for the session. This is the second statement of the kind filed under the new law.

The steamer Bulgaria, which was wrecked on Fisherman's Shoal, Green Bay, Wis., can be saved, it is said, if the underwriters care to go to the expense, as the vessel has been abandoned. Some extensive repairs will have to be made, however, to the keel and bottom planking, and it is not yet known whether an effort will be made to salve her.

Two companies, the Federal of New Jersey, and the Assurance Company of America of New York, **will cease operations in New Orleans** the first of July because of the high conflagration hazard there. The companies named will continue to write in the rest of the South, and before long expect to enter Georgia and Alabama.

The resources of the **Federal insurance company of New Jersey** have been increased by $600,000 and a new issue of stock to the amount of $500,000 has been issued at 120, with this end in view. The capital will then be a round million, and $100,000 will be added to the net surplus by the premium on the new issue.

The **Colorado** Supreme Court, by a unanimous opinion, has upheld the constitutionality of the **Employers' Liability Act** passed by the Legislature in 1901. It makes an employer liable for the death of an employee by an accident, even if it is caused by the negligence of a co-employee.

The former secretary of the Committee of Twenty of the National Board, Mr. Lockett, has tabulated the average **cost of fireproof buildings,** and finds that the cost of foundations is almost exactly 5 per cent. of the total cost, irrespective of height.

Burglary insurance will be written by the Frankfort Marine Accident and Plate Glass in addition to the liability and personal accident lines it is already writing on this side of the water, according to arrangements which are nearly perfected.

Marine insurance offices which were shaken out of **San Francisco** at the time of the quake, and moved temporarily to Oakland, are rapidly returning to San Francisco, many occupying new buildings on or near their former sites.

The executive committee of the **National Convention of Insurance Commissioners** will meet at the Manhattan Hotel, New York, next Monday. The date of the next annual convention will be fixed at this meeting.

The **National Union of Pittsburgh,** which has been represented by Arthur G. Nason & Co. as general agents at San Francisco, has instructed its California agents to report direct to the home office after July 1.

In the near future the **United Surety Company of Baltimore** expects to take on personal accident, liability and plate glass, and possibly steam boiler insurance. January 1 is the outside date named.

The organization of the American Railway insurance company and the Associated Railway Companies insurance company, **the new traction mutuals,** is to be completed at Cleveland this month.

Paterson, N. J., fire insurance agents have been circularizing company managers in New York, protesting against the rate advance there. Seems as if they had a fire there once upon a time.

Stock of the **Fidelity Fire of New York,** organized by the Continental interests, has been oversubscribed about 4,000 shares.

The **Southern of New Orleans** was admitted to Connecticut on Wednesday of this week.

The **Hawkeye Fire** of Des Moines, Ia., has entered Mississippi.

Personal.

Agency Appointments.

Commercial Union and Palatine: Walter G. Gierasch, special agent for Kentucky and Tennessee, with headquarters at Louisville.

Home of New York: Magnus Lundberg, of Crookston, Minn., special agent for northern Minnesota, under State Agent William D. Lowry.

Jefferson Fire of Philadelphia: J. J. Campbell, special agent for Pennsylvania and New York.

Southern of New Orleans: Lewis & Frear, sole agents for the boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens, exclusive of listed storage warehouses.

Virginia State: Messrs. Shipman and Wayne, Illinois State agents.

Mr. James W. Cochrane, special agent and adjuster for the Phenix of Brooklyn in Virginia and the Carolinas, died at Monrovia, Cal., June 6. Mr. Cochrane went to California six weeks ago in an effort to recover from an attack of pneumonia, but the disease had secured too strong a hold and it was impossible to combat it. Mr. Cochrane was thirty-five years old, and one of the best known men in the Virginia and Carolina field.

Mr. H. W. Dilg, in charge of the claims of the accident and health department of the Philadelphia Casualty Company at 68 William street, New York, has joined the Ætna Life's accident and liability department in the Continental Building. Mr. Burton E. Emory has assumed the duties of Mr. Dilg with the Philadelphia Casualty.

Mr. Franklin Wells Lougee, treasurer of the Fireman's Fund of San Francisco since 1895, died at the home of his daughter, in Petaluma, on June 8. His death was undoubtedly due to the shock of the fire. He was eighty-two years old, and had been a director of the company since 1886.

Assistant Secretary James M. Ballantine, of the Provident Savings Life of New York, has been very ill this week from blood poisoning caused by an ulcerated tooth. Yesterday afternoon he was greatly improved, though not necessarily out of danger.

Mr. Thomas Lee, general agent at Toronto, Canada, of the New York Life, was found dead at Troops Beach, Rothesay, on June 11. It is thought that he had an attack of heart failure while bathing. He was seventy-one years old.

Mr. William A. Arnold, former president and one of the founders of the Reading Fire insurance company, died at his home in Reading, June 11, of general debility, aged seventy years.

Mr. C. I. Hitchcock, of the *Insurance Field,* has gone to San Francisco to look over the insurance adjustment situation for his paper, which

has been doing remarkable work in connection with the great disaster there.

Mr. Robert G. McCullough has been appointed special agent for Indiana for the Franklin Fire of Philadelphia. His headquarters will be at 150 East Market street, Indianapolis, Ind.

Vice President and Secretary Robert Lecky, Jr., of the Virginia State insurance company of Richmond, Va., was a visitor among the New York insurance offices this week.

Mr. Walter L. Houser, Wisconsin Secretary of State, against whom charges of attempted bribery have been preferred by Commissioner Host, has had his trial set for July 2.

Mr. Patrick H. Shaughnessy, second assistant chief of the San Francisco fire department, has been appointed chief, succeeding Dennis Sullivan, killed in the earthquake.

Mr. H. M. Huff has resigned as special agent of the National Union of Pittsburgh to go with the National of Allegheny as special agent in the Western field.

Mr. Solon H. Woodbury, a well known Chicago underwriter, died at his home in Maywood, Ill., June 14, aged fifty-two years.

Col. Joseph Button, the newly appointed Insurance Commissioner of Virginia, will take charge of his new work on July 1.

Mr. Edward West, a pioneer insurance man of Columbus, Ohio, died there June 12, aged eighty-five years.

Insurance Commissioner E. Myron Wolf has been reappointed by Governor Pardee of California.

Obituary.

Death of President Pattison, of the Union Central Life.

After lingering for months with a prostrating disease, and within a few hours of his death rallying so as to give his physicians and friends some hope of eventual recovery, John M. Pattison, Governor of Ohio and president of the Union Central Life insurance company, passed away on Monday afternoon at his home at Milford, a suburb of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Although for over a quarter of a century a life underwriter by profession, and one of the most prominent officials in the insurance business, Mr. Pattison was still more widely known as a public man. In the course of his public career he was a member of both Houses of the Ohio Legislature, a Representative from the Cincinnati district in Congress and Governor of his native State. His personal popularity is attested by the fact that although a Democrat in politics he was elected in localities in which the Republican party usually dominated. He was the only candidate elected on the Ohio Democratic State ticket last fall, his majority being 42,647, all the other successful candidates being Republicans elected by almost similar majorities.

Mr. Pattison was born on a farm in Cleremont County, Ohio, June 14, 1847. By a curious coincidence his kinsman, Robert E. Pattison, born three years later, was twice Governor of Pennsylvania and also president of a life insurance company. The Ohio Pattison went into the Union army as a youth during the last years of the Civil War, and after its close, being still a minor, worked his way through Ohio Wesleyan University, graduating in 1869. He went immediately into the life insurance business as a solicitor for the Union Central Life insurance company. While writing insurance he studied law, and was admitted to the Ohio bar. After ten years' practice he returned to life insurance, became vice president and manager of the Union Central Life in 1881, and succeeded to the presidency of the company in 1891. He was the actual not the nominal head of the company, keenly interested in the promotion of its business, and at all times at the front as a life underwriter.

While in Congress Mr. Pattison was the author of a bill to create a national bureau of insurance supervision. He always clung ardently to the idea of Federal control of insurance. When the National Convention of State Insurance Commissioners met at Columbus, Ohio, in 1902 he made a notable address before it, strongly advocating Government supervision, denouncing the unnecessary and harmful exactions on the life insurance interests of the country by State legislatures and deprecating the expensive scale on which the business was conducted. During his recent illness President Pattison kept in close touch with the management of his company, and it was only last week it was reported that he was holding conferences with his fellow officers upon its affairs in the sick chamber. To his ability, integrity and industry the rapid growth of the Union Central Life is due in no small measure.

The late president leaves a wife, a son, John Williams Pattison, who has just graduated from college and is studying law, and two daughters. The funeral services were held at the home of the deceased on Thursday, Bishop Spellmeyer and Rev. Wm. Le Sourd, pastor of the Milford Methodist Episcopal Church, officiating. The funeral procession to the grave was headed by the First Regiment, Ohio National Guard. Business houses throughout Ohio were generally closed during the funeral.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Louisiana.

BATON ROUGE, La., June 22.—Senator Hennessy's bill, providing that misrepresentations in the application shall not void the policy, has passed the Senate after being amended in committee.

Seven of the Guilbeau bills, modeled on the Armstrong law, have passed the House. They are House No. 79, regulating industrial insurance; No. 80, providing for annual dividends; No. 81, regarding capital of life insurance companies; No. 83, requiring life policies to contain the entire contract; No. 84, forbidding forfeiture of a policy without notice; No. 85, regulating the business of fraternals, and No. 242, requiring vouchers for disbursements above $100. House Bill No. 237, by Mr. Gay, regarding the annual reports of life insurance companies, has also passed the House.

Mr. O'Connor introduced in the House of Representatives a bill to tax foreign insurance companies' agents and corporations for the benefit of local fire department pension and relief funds. The proposed tax is $2 upon every $100 of premiums written.

There was a hearing on the bill last week, at which Assistant Secretary Pepper, of the Liverpool and London and Globe, appeared in opposition. He said that it was unjust and inequitable to further tax the foreign insurance companies, although he did not object to the pensioning of the firemen. He claimed that every one interested should pay as well as the insurance companies, and that it should be done by direct taxation. That was a peculiar proposition which provided that foreign companies should pension men whom the home companies were not asked to do anything for.

At a hearing given on the Guilbeau bills, which are copies of several of the New York Armstrong laws, there was a large attendance of life insurance agents. Among the speakers was Joseph Dinkelspiel. He argued that there was no need for legislation in Louisiana because the only object is to protect the policyholder, which has already been done through the Armstrong bills in New York. He said there were 3,500 people in Louisiana making a living out of life insurance companies. These companies pay $35,000 license to the State and the same to the city of New Orleans. He urged that there could be no possible harm in delaying this legislation until the Special Insurance Commission, resulting from the Chicago Convention, had reported its uniform bill next September.

Mr. M. N. Wisdom, of the Equitable Life, said: "My company does not propose to interfere with legislation. In case of antagonistic laws, it would simply withdraw from the State."

The Insurance Committee reported all the Guilbeau bills favorably.

The Barrett anti-coinsurance bill has been amended in committee.

Mr. Hughes has introduced a bill in the House to repeal the fire prevention bureau law, and it has been favorably reported.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass., June 19.—Governor Guild sent to the House this afternoon the further report of the commission to recodify the insurance laws. It was promptly referred to the recess Committee on Insurance on motion of Mr. Peabody, of Cambridge. The following abstract of the report has been prepared for publication and was given out from the Governor's office:

The commission to recodify the insurance laws, appointed by Governor Guild under Chapter 11, of the Resolves of this year, and requested by him, as experts, to call his attention to (1) apparent inconsistencies in existing laws and changes advisable for their solution or the simplification in application of principles already recognized by statute; and to examine the recommendations of the Armstrong Committee of New York and the Chicago Conference of Governors, Attorneys General and Insurance Commissioners, and to advise him (2) which measures recommended by said committee and conference are already embodied in Massachusetts law, and (3) which measures not so embodied seem to the commission desirable, and (4) whether measures deemed desirable by the commission which have been proposed in the interest of uniform legislation needed to be supplemented by further legislation for the remedy of existing evils, has reported to Governor Guild. The report follows the above division into subjects, dealing only with the problems of life insurance as conducted by the old line companies, except so far as the work of the recodification of the insurance laws already reported by the commission to the Legislature on April 14 last suggested amendments tending to harmony and simplicity in the law.

The work of the commission has not been an investigation of Massachusetts companies, and no authority was given to send for persons or papers or to summon witnesses.

Under the first division of its work the commission recommends fourteen or more changes suggested by the recodification. These changes are recommended only in the interest of harmony, simplicity and uniformity in the law, and are not, therefore, of special interest.

Under the second division of the report the commission makes the following recommendations as to matters already embodied in whole or part in the present laws:

That Massachusetts retain its present system of net valuation of policies in determining the reserve to be held by all companies doing business in Massachusetts, this being the highest standard in use;

That the fullest publicity should be required in the insurance business;

That annual reports in the form recommended by the Armstrong Committee and the Committee of the Chicago Conference, except as to select and ultimate margins for expenses, be required;

That a gain and loss exhibit be required, in form to be approved by the Insurance Commissioner;

That officers and directors should be prohibited from being pecuniarily interested in any purchase or sale of or to their company;

That officers and agents be prohibited from circulating estimates or illustrations misrepresenting the benefits or advantages promised by policies.

The commission has recommended no change in the present law, and has declined to follow the recommendations of the Armstrong Committee and the Chicago Conference and its subcommittees as to the following matters:

As to registration of legislative counsel and agents, which was already covered by existing legislation;

As to preliminary term valuation of policies, which was sanctioned by the Committee of Fifteen of the Chicago Conference;

As to the select and ultimate method of valuation of policies, which was adopted by the New York Legislature;

As to further power in the Insurance Commissioner to examine persons relative to the affairs of the company;

As to policy of insurance containing the entire contract; statements of the insured being representations and not warranties, already covered by Massachusetts law;

As to policyholders having the right to sue the company directly, the former New York law having been much narrower than the existing Massachusetts law;

As to assessment insurance other than fraternal insurance, except for the purpose of insuring against sickness and accident to the insured, recently prohibited in New York, the commission considering the present limitation safe.

Under the third division of the report the commission has made the following recommendations:

That both stock and mutual life insurance companies be allowed to organize under general laws, under the following restrictions: Mutual companies to satisfy the Insurance Commissioner that 500 persons in good health have applied for level premium policies aggregating $1,000,000, and have each paid one annual premium in cash, and to have a guaranty capital of not less than $100,000 paid in in cash. Stock life insurance companies to satisfy the Insurance Commissioner that they have a capital of $200,000 paid in in cash and a surplus of at least $100,000;

That two State directors be appointed by the Governor on the board of directors of every mutual life insurance company hereafter organized, and of such existing mutual life insurance companies as shall accept such a provision in the law;

That deferred dividends be abolished after January 1, 1908;

That as to past deferred dividend accumulations all companies doing business in Massachusetts be required to make an immediate accounting, an annual statement and provisional apportionment of surplus to each class of policyholders, and that the aggregate apportioned to the policyholders be charged as a liability of the company;

That each company be allowed to determine for itself when the equities require the beginning of dividend payments upon new policies;

That no limitation by law be made as to amount of expenses;

That a limitation of expenses to loadings is inadvisable;

That companies issuing participating policies be prohibited from issuing non-participating policies;

That no limitation as to amount of business is necessary for Massachusetts companies;

That it is not advisable to make the receiver of a rebate liable to punishment as well as the giver, as is provided by the recent New York law;

That bonuses and special rewards to agents, based upon the amount of insurance written, be prohibited;

That a restriction of investments to certain classes of property or securities is likely to prove harmful;

That the investments of an insurance company in the stocks of any one company be limited to 10 per cent. of the capital of such company;

That no investment or loan be made which is not first authorized by the board of directors or by a committee thereof charged with the duty of supervising such investment or loan, of whose action records shall be kept;

That salaries in excess of $5,000 be authorized by the boards of directors;

That agreements as to salaries or compensation shall be limited to a period of twelve months;

That pensions be prohibited;

That vouchers be required for disbursements of $100 or more;

That certain essential terms be standardized, including the provisions now required by law, and, in addition thereto, the following: 1. A grace of thirty days for payment of every premium after the first. 2. Incontestability, except for non-payment of premiums, after one or two years from the date of the policy. 3. Tables of paid up and cash surrender value in every year after the third year and the term of extended insurance if given. 4. Notice of time for payment of premiums or interest, etc.;

But that standard forms of the entire policy be not adopted;

That it would be inequitable to compel a surrender value at present before the third year;

That political contributions by insurance companies be prohibited.

The commission has not followed the recommendation of the Armstrong Committee allowing voting for directors by mail, or that of the Chicago Committee providing for a system of district representation in electing directors, or the recommendation of the Armstrong Committee requiring publication of lists of policyholders by the companies. It has not followed the recommendation of the Armstrong Committee limiting expenses, amount of new business, investments or as to standard forms. The Chicago Committee did not approve the New York standard forms, but has ordered its committee, which is to report to the conference at Washington in September, to prepare new forms.

Under the fourth division of this report the commission recommends the following:

That an act be passed to create a State board of accountancy and to regulate the business of certified public accountants;

That an act be passed compelling insurance companies to adopt a uniform system of accounting, to be approved by the Insurance Commissioner, and to have their books, accounts and reports audited by such certified public accountants;

That directors of life insurance companies should not be restricted from being directors in other corporations;

That two-thirds of the directors of mutual life insurance companies be required to be citizens of this Commonwealth;

That industrial companies be required to separate their accounts as to the ordinary life insurance business and the industrial insurance business done by them.

Miscellany.

Program of Proceedings and Entertainments at the Fifth International Congress of Actuaries.

The Fifth International Congress of Actuaries will, as heretofore announced, be held in Berlin September 10 to 15 proximo. The officers of the organizing committee are Dr. Hahn, general director, Magdeburg, president; Dr. Ehrenberg, professor of the University of Göttingen, first vice president; Ritter von Rasp, Government director, Munich, second vice president; Dr. Manes, general secretary, Berlin. The American correspondent is Israel C. Pierson, 141 Broadway, New York.

The *Insurance Observer,* of London, prints the following program of and notes on the proceedings of the Congress:

Monday, September 10—10 a. m., official opening of the congress in the Reichstag building; 1 p. m., luncheon in Reichstag building; 2:30-5 p. m., first business meeting in the Reichstag building; 8:30 p. m., reception in the Reichstag building by the organizing committee.

Tuesday, September 11—11 a. m.-1 p. m., second business meeting in the Reichstag building; 1 p. m.-2:30 p. m., luncheon in the Reichstag building; 2:30-5 p. m., third business meeting in the Reichstag building; 7:30 p. m., by command of the Emperor, gala performance at the Royal Opera House.

Wednesday, September 12—9:30 a. m.-1 p. m., fourth business meeting in the Reichstag building; 1 p. m.-2:30 p. m., luncheon in the Reichstag building; 2:30-5 p. m., fifth business meeting in the Reichstag building; 7:30 p. m., reception of the members of this congress by the municipal authorities of Berlin at the Town Hall.

Thursday, September 13—9:30 a. m.-1 p. m., sixth business meeting in the Reichstag building; 1 p. m.-2:30 p. m., luncheon in the Reichstag building; 2:30-5 p. m., seventh business meeting in the Reichstag building. The evening is left to the disposal of the members of the congress.

Friday, September 14—9:30 a. m.-1 p. m., eighth business meeting in the Reichstag building; 1 p. m.-2:30 p. m., luncheon in the Reichstag building; 2:30 p. m.-4 p. m., ninth business meeting in the Reichstag building; 4 p. m., the end of the scientific part of this congress; 7:30 p. m., banquet arranged by the organizing committee in the restaurant of the Zoological Gardens.

Saturday, September 15—An excursion to Potsdam, Wannsee, etc., or viewing the sanatoria at Beelitz. 9:30 a. m., special train to Potsdam (departure); carriage drive through Potsdam; viewing Sans Souci and the mausoleum; special steamer to Wannsee; 2:30 p. m., dinner at the Schwedischer Pavilion in Wannsee; 4:30 p. m., return by special train to Berlin; 5 p. m., arrival in Berlin.

End of the official part of the congress.

It may be added that the organizing committee met on May 10 last, subsequent to which Dr. Alfred Manes, the secretary, gave out the following information:

By command of His Majesty the Emperor and King a gala performance will be given at the Royal Opera House in honor of the members of the congress.

The municipal authorities of Berlin have passed a resolution to arrange a reception of the members of this congress at the Town Hall.

His excellency the president of the Reichstag kindly put the entire Reichstag building at disposal of this congress for its meetings.

The governments of Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Luxemburg, Mexico, the Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, Switzerland and the United States of America have given notice of their intention to take part officially in and to send special delegates to the congress. It is expected that the governments of Austria-Hungary, the Argentine Republic, Japan, New Zealand and Russia will also take part in the congress.

Special amusements during the hours of the business meetings will be arranged for ladies accompanying members of this congress. A ladies' committee will arrange this part of the program.

The office of the Hamburg-America Line (formerly Stangen's Reisebureau), 8 Unter den Linden, Berlin, W., will get rooms at any hotel in Berlin for members who apply for them. Intended visitors are requested to put themselves, at early convenience, in communication with the Hamburg-America Line should they desire to secure rooms through that agency.

As the organizing committee can only finish their arrangements to the satisfaction of members if it knows the number who will take part in the proceedings some weeks before the beginning of the sittings of the congress, it will be impossible to consider applications for participation in the festivities, etc., which come to hand in Berlin after July 15.

The Insured Alone Has the Power to Reduce the Cost of Fire Insurance.

The following are extracts from a practical address on the cost of fire insurance made by F. Wade Vaughan, general agent for the South of the Lumber Mutual insurance company of Boston, before the Mutual Fire Underwriters' convention at Boston last week:

I think you will agree with me that there is not only a moral obligation resting upon every policyholder to this end, but that it is an obligation which, if promptly and conscientiously met, will result in a saving of thousands of dollars to policyholders.

This leads me to suggest:

A PRACTICAL WAY TO REDUCE THE COST OF FIRE INSURANCE.

The prevention of fires. How applicable the familiar expression "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" to the case in question!

Statistics show that 40 per cent. of the fire losses occurring in this country are occasioned by causes preventable by the owner, builder or occupant of the building in which the fire occurred. These persons, therefore, are responsible for the expenditure of $60,000,000 annually in fire losses, and they alone can reduce the fire waste by this amount. If the cost to the companies is reduced $60,000,000 it is possible to reduce the cost to the assured this amount. In the mutual companies, by the terms of their contract, it necessarily would be reduced. With the stock companies it would be optional.

The officers of the companies occupy the position of schoolmaster and the policyholders that of scholars. As in all schools there are some scholars who receive the instructions from their teacher with absolute indifference, having no desire to put into practice the principles taught, owing to the cost of so doing. Such scholars make undesirable citizens, and never amount to anything.

There are other scholars who are desirous of learning at any cost, and are willing to make sacrifices in order to accomplish that which will result in the advancement of their interest and the interests of those with whom they come in contact. Such scholars represent the successful business man, and an influence for good upon all with whom they come in contact.

Both of these classes are found among the policyholders of all insurance companies. It is evident, therefore, that in so far as this particular and very important feature, viz., the prevention of fires is concerned, it rests with the owners of insurable property whether or not they will reduce the cost of fire insurance.

What, then, is the first condition precedent to reducing the cost of fire insurance? It is this: Let every owner of insurable property answer to himself, "Is my building constructed as safely as I would construct it were I to insure it myself?" "Is it kept clean and free from hazardous occupancy?" "Is it equipped with effective fire extinguishing devices?" In other words, "Are the most effective and practical means used for the prevention of fires?"

Answer these questions in the affirmative and you have a solution of the problem that is before us.

INSPECTION.

The question arises, how can the assured know that his property is safe? "Know your risk." This injunction cannot be too forcibly impressed upon both the assured and the company. It is only by personal knowledge of the property insured that intelligent consideration can be given to the conditions that exist. Both the company and the assured should be thoroughly conversant with existing conditions, because if they are such as to make the risk undesirable the company would prefer not to be interested, and the assured would be glad to make such improvements as would eliminate the undersirable features.

An intimate knowledge, therefore, of the risk in question must be had by both assured and the company. This can be had only by a frequent and careful inspection. The value of inspection is well illustrated by a story of an old negro I once heard of. This old negro was the proud possessor of a few fine chickens, upon which he depended for a large part of his subsistence. Every night just before retiring he could be seen with a lantern in his hand, wending his way toward the chicken house, and every morning, as soon as he arose, he visited the chicken house again. Upon being questioned as to his object in making these morning and evening visits with such systematic regularity, he

replied: "I goes dere at night to 'spect de premises and to see dat all de fowls is safe and de do' locked. I goes dere in de morning to call de roll and see dat none ain't been walking in dere sleep and forgot to come back, coz dese fowls are about all I got, and Ise 'pendent mostly on 'em for my livin'."

In conclusion I have only to suggest to the officers of all mutual companies that they impress upon the assured that he, and he alone, has the power to reduce the cost of fire insurance. Let him understand that the rates are not made arbitrarily, as many dissatisfied policyholders seem inclined to think, but that they are based upon the experience had by the companies on the particular class of risks to which his belong. If this class is unprofitable it becomes necessary to either decline to insure it or charge a rate commensurate with the hazard at risk.

The Situation at San Francisco—Menacing Communication From the Governor of California to the Fire Underwriters.

Managers of fire insurance companies concerned in the San Francisco losses received the following dispatch on Saturday at their home offices from the Governor of California and the mayor of San Francisco:

The following statement is made to all home offices of insurance companies, not excepting those who are according fair treatment:

The insurance condition here is intolerable, and we make our first appeal to the home offices. San Francisco has been a most profitable field for insurance companies. Our citizens have paid their premiums, and now demand that their losses be paid. Every means have been taken by certain agents to wring unfair settlements from a stricken people. They have refused the privilege of removing débris where there is no salvage, in order to coerce settlement. In very few instances did the earthquake destroy a material part of any building, and these cases can be easily isolated, and should not prejudicially affect the rights of others and cause delay. Certain agents consider the companies' bank accounts only and not our rights, and are trying to force horizontal cuts, which our people will strenuously resist. We have decided to organize such resistance in order to save individuals from imposition. No doubt our people would accord a reasonable time for companies to realize on assets if definite settlements are made. We appeal in our misfortune to your manhood, business integrity, and sense of justice to interpose your veto on the disreputable tactics of certain agents who are irritating our people to the point of exasperation. In the name of the people of city and State, a speedy declaration of policy and settlement is demanded. Please wire reply.

GEO. C. PARDEE,
Governor of California.
EUGENE E. SCHMIDT,
Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco.

Many of the companies appealed to have replied to the Governor and mayor, and among the replies made public is that of the Connecticut Fire, which is as follows:

HARTFORD, Conn., June 18, 1906.

Your telegram of the 16th instant is received. The Connecticut Fire insurance company at the outset instructed the Pacific manager and adjusters to adjust all San Francisco fire losses in accordance with the terms of its policies as rapidly as possible. Our wish is to pay in full and at once all legitimate claims, and we have been and are now directing our efforts to this end and shall continue to do so. We ask for no time forbearance, and we deprecate the unavoidable delays in settlement. We shall interpose no technical obstacle to equitable adjustments, and shall take no advantage of the misfortunes of individual policyholders to force them into unfair settlements. The reputation of this company through the country is too valuable an asset to be jeopardized by any different course.

We are reluctant to believe that other insurance companies who like us are able to meet in full their contract obligations will fail to treat fairly all claims which are fairly made. The character of the catastrophe has unfortunately involved questions as to liability under many policies and as to the extent of liability under many others. The destruction by earthquake is likely in many cases to be minimized for the purpose of exaggerating the fire losses. The obliteration of evidence is likely to develop excessive and even fraudulent claims. In the adjustment of losses there may be larger opportunity for illegal collections from the insurance companies than for improper withholdings from the insured.

A disposition to recognize the difficulties confronting the companies and to assist in determining the complicated questions of fact and law in place of the present spirit of hospitality and denunciation which appears to exist would, in our judgment, facilitate and hasten fair settlements.

J. D. BROWNE, President.

A meeting of policyholders was to be held at San Francisco yesterday to organize a "policyholders' protective association," to force full settlements by the insurance companies. It is notorious that a number of lawyers, taking advantage of the situation to advance their own interests, are promoting the formation of this association.

A difficulty which causes trouble in the settlement of losses, and also losses to the insured, is the interference of local "adjusting bureaus" in San Francisco. They have induced people to assign their interests to them, with the promise of obtaining prompt settlement and better terms than could be got if the insured did business direct with the companies' adjusters. Those "bureaus" induce the insured to make an assignment to them on a commission basis of 3 per cent. of the face of the policy.

Many companies are publishing announcements that they will pay losses dollar for dollar on the "merits" of their losses.

Forty-one companies failed to furnish by June 18 complete lists of policies and forms in San Francisco, as demanded by the Insurance Commissioner. Over eighty companies avoided this demand by signing the agreement extending for sixty days more the time for filing proofs of loss. Several companies have already withdrawn from the State because of this demand, and most of the others hope that the Insurance Commissioner will carry out the provisions of the new law and oust them from the State for non-compliance. It is probable that he realizes that this would strengthen the positions of any companies that want to make close settlements and will be slow to take action.

The San Francisco papers make an admission as to the earthquake damage in their account of the "Chimney Fund," made up of the $1 fee charged for inspecting chimneys after the earthquake. This now amounts to over $30,000, and Chief Inspector Porter, who had charge of the work, is quoted as saying that not 5 per cent. of the chimneys were straight after the calamity, "the defects varying all the way from minor ones to absolute wrecks."

The following special to the *Journal of Commerce* of Friday gives the latest information regarding the progress of settlements:

OAKLAND, Cal., June 21.—It is estimated that there were 6,000 losses at San Francisco in which more than six companies were interested, all such being handled by the Fire Underwriters' Adjusting Bureau. So far only 1,200 of these have been assigned to loss committees, many of which have already been adjusted and paid.

The Mutualization of the Equitable Life—Nominations for Directors.

At an adjourned meeting held on Wednesday the directors of the Equitable Life Assurance Society approved of the amended charter providing for the election of twenty-eight directors by the policyholders when the mutual life insurance companies hold their elections next December. There were thirty votes in favor of the adoption of the new charter and none against.

The directors met again on Thursday to nominate the directors for whom the policyholders will be asked to vote at the election in December. The ticket consists of all the directors who have been chosen by the trustees of the majority stock since the reorganization of the Equitable a year ago, with six others, who are new.

The hold over directors are the following: A. W. Krech, president of the Equitable Trust Company; Henry M. Alexander,

(*Continued on page* 487.)

Life Insurance Business in South Carolina in 1905.

(From a Report by the Comptroller General.)

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna	138	$233,143	1,085	$2,297,725	$68,686	$30,607
Connecticut Mutual	6	15,392	106	387,892	6,211	4,469
Equitable	1,335	1,899,071	6,858	11,584,897	361,137	262,225
Fidelity Mutual	241	424,133	903	1,637,649	54,460	17,781
Germania	117	151,500	296	405,389	16,947	2,000
Greensboro Life	177	264,800	167	248,800	7,806	------
Hartford Life	241	342,379	456	713,128	21,115	12,000
Home Friendly So.	5,190	363,300	12,676	898,310	56,269	22,876
Home Life	91	135,307	608	1,158,527	39,847	7,807
Life Ins. Co., Va.	26,202	3,001,033	72,041	8,400,321	293,736	73,263
Manhattan	219	330,100	461	796,285	26,762	31,988
Massachusetts Mut.	18	26,500	39	89,079	2,830	1,000
Metropolitan	7,188	1,499,124	7,871	1,500,447	37,811	3,493
Mutual Benefit	1,165	1,639,168	4,443	7,538,269	254,392	65,641
Mutual Life, N. Y.	962	1,708,655	8,119	16,118,600	421,509	192,739
Mutual Reserve	20	61,500	337	649,352	19,682	11,000
National Life, Vt.	94	153,000	114	185,000	5,431	8,000
New England Mut.	165	237,318	793	1,530,502	48,280	23,818
New York Life	1,365	2,460,873	8,068	14,932,703	484,311	139,948
Pacific Mutual	374	512,039	975	1,224,208	43,998	5,000
Penn. Mutual	584	1,080,663	2,712	5,407,330	158,519	59,700
Phœnix Mutual	101	165,705	728	1,117,641	38,432	9,000
Provident Savings.	221	582,286	622	1,336,330	48,764	10,000
Prudential	520	753,555	1,961	3,200,249	106,574	13,987
Reliance	48	62,350	45	61,850	1,973	------
Sec'rty, Greensboro	255	521,000	320	652,000	23,780	5,000
Security, Bingh't'n.	96	152,114	251	448,531	12,055	2,024
South'n, Greensb'ro	60	68,000	69	89,000	3,234	------
Southern, Atlanta	352	53,623	352	53,623	1,905	------
South Atlantic	------	------	36	69,000	------	------
State Mutual	233	372,829	803	1,253,829	40,756	7,699
State Life of Ind.	232	421,205	583	1,220,305	41,265	10,500
State Mut., Georgia	335	537,000	332	586,000	25,425	2,600
Sun Life, Canada	145	183,965	569	521,583	17,411	16,405
Travelers	44	81,081	1,180	2,496,925	60,253	52,563
Union Central	392	574,895	2,035	3,072,674	100,911	4,450
Washington	8	13,600	154	450,392	9,786	4,504
Totals, 1905	48,934	$21,082,206	139,168	$94,334,345	$2,961,667	$1,114,087
" 1904	42,185	20,775,893	119,126	86,529,856	2,656,657	886,518
" 1903	33,943	19,211,126	92,470	64,765,385	2,274,777	814,672
" 1902	------	15,807,507	------	65,253,120	1,970,866	946,652

Fire Insurance Business in Indiana in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle.	$2,539,682	$35,090	$15,836
Ætna, Hartford	11,338,017	163,457	71,979
Agricultural, Watertown	2,744,400	37,776	26,225
Allemannia, Pittsburgh	1,026,229	15,595	7,453
American, Newark	15,271,683	180,329	85,063
American Central, St. Louis	2,079,319	32,732	9,723
American Fire, Philadelphia	2,308,068	25,903	18,947
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	229,055	4,818	598
Atlas, London	2,853,387	38,567	26,882
British America, Toronto	1,905,343	26,823	26,306
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	832,409	12,238	4,320
Buffalo German, Buffalo	2,177,118	29,139	18,241
Caledonian, Edinburgh	1,396,067	19,687	8,860
Calumet Fire, Chicago	460,922	6,354	1,019
Camden Fire, Camden	295,959	4,567	1,151
Citizens, St. Louis	2,888,834	45,534	29,372
Cologne Reinsurance, Cologne	747,416	10,162	10,776
Commerce, New York	137,425	1,960	736
Commercial Union, London	4,826,924	59,980	47,502
Concordia, Milwaukee	2,058,677	24,875	11,422
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	7,062,141	99,918	70,676
Continental, New York	48,577,806	348,425	135,134
Delaware, Philadelphia	2,255,115	31,379	10,968
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	1,024,412	12,669	6,379
Equitable Fire & Marine, Providence.	1,684,622	20,184	15,432
Farmers Fire, York, Pa	1,451,284	21,069	11,466
Fire Association, Philadelphia	5,107,715	76,858	65,204
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	5,791,040	77,268	46,794
Firemen's, Newark	1,282,776	24,269	6,387
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	2,350,939	35,593	30,054
German, Freeport, Ill	10,431,951	121,138	73,032
German, Indianapolis	10,580,471	149,217	64,156
German Alliance, New York	2,056,245	30,820	27,368
German American, New York	6,940,682	89,811	73,967
German, Peoria, Ill	1,786,416	26,722	12,007
German, Pittsburgh	1,197,457	13,363	4,017
German National, Chicago	2,585,701	36,421	15,050
Germania Fire, New York	6,908,193	98,822	47,998
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia.	1,506,845	20,831	8,977
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	5,490,144	56,990	37,568
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	2,528,077	51,282	13,258
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	2,422,798	38,698	28,502
Hanover Fire, New York	4,150,427	64,155	37,705
Hartford Fire, Hartford	27,825,183	418,258	228,388
Home, New York	73,954,580	474,298	253,125
Home F. and M., San Francisco	1,569,695	14,932	9,768
Indemnity Fire, New York	156,705	2,318	------
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	5,330,131	79,991	55,447
Insurance Co. of North America	8,687,949	123,647	83,233
Ins. Company of State of Illinois	1,021,753	16,522	1,979
Liv. and Lon. and Globe, Liverpool	7,173,766	90,682	51,814
London and Lancashire	2,447,488	28,455	19,518
London Assurance Corporation	2,120,152	30,180	19,153
Michigan Commercial, Detroit	711,508	8,282	444
Michigan F. and M., Detroit	1,113,501	15,625	7,592
Michigan Millers Mutual	128,815	3,135	------
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	1,078,770	15,346	5,925
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	5,597,509	81,299	55,928
Moscow, Moscow	424,044	5,960	3,178
National, Allegheny	144,716	1,906	1
National Fire, Hartford	7,084,213	90,324	67,729
National Union, Pittsburgh	2,683,275	39,313	17,906
Newark Fire, Newark	1,083,558	15,367	3,367
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	2,822,829	36,829	20,238
New York Fire, New York	650,650	10,076	8,447
Niagara Fire, New York	4,331,591	64,563	37,811
North British and Mercantile	6,199,293	85,676	68,199
Northern, New York	160,391	2,399	------
Northern, London	3,979,914	58,011	56,804
North River Fire, New York	1,215,103	18,097	2,926
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	6,846,222	73,401	36,573
Norwich Union, Norwich	2,638,973	40,735	37,779
Ohio Farmers, Le Roy	21,869,790	230,906	117,968
Orient, Hartford	1,501,759	20,362	17,836
Pacific Fire, New York	1,065,250	20,517	700
Palatine, London	2,238,705	27,566	19,363
Pelican, New York	242,732	3,493	2,895
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	4,675,202	60,824	32,154
Phenix, Brooklyn	23,004,754	336,079	168,438
Phœnix, Hartford	8,424,956	103,411	56,044
Phœnix, London	2,245,158	36,859	27,249
Providence Washington, Providence	3,421,822	40,094	29,168
Prussian National, Stettin	2,185,745	22,687	10,203
Queen, New York	6,584,627	97,634	67,842
Reliance, Philadelphia	2,283,389	32,875	15,991
Rochester German, Rochester	2,385,022	38,293	24,168
Royal, London	7,297,645	104,922	71,060
Royal Exchange, London	1,944,181	23,956	17,295
St. Paul F. and M., St. Paul	4,171,473	52,551	29,030
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	206,074	3,868	14,594
Scottish Union and National	2,123,525	35,071	21,115
Security, New Haven	3,569,001	40,723	19,233
Shawnee Fire, Topeka	570,254	7,274	1,192
Skandia, Stockholm	1,006,173	14,432	18,800
Springfield Fire and Marine	9,087,759	120,562	70,358
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	1,052,348	17,005	863
Sun, London	4,456,201	47,162	29,748
Svea, Gothenburg	141,179	5,167	889
Teutonia, Dayton	1,014,140	14,048	5,128
Toledo F. and M., Toledo	122,950	2,232	------
Traders, Chicago	2,337,112	35,820	41,906
Transatlantic, Hamburg	248,800	3,481	876
Union, London	619,356	8,660	15,756
United Firemen's Philadelphia	412,438	6,380	403
United States Fire, New York	868,319	12,281	4,982
Westchester Fire, New York	2,648,960	40,500	21,559
Western, Toronto	2,871,144	35,905	26,985
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York.	1,312,510	18,743	13,475
Totals, 1905	$502,682,911	$5,989,458	$3,433,042
Comparison With Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$470,827,242	$5,640,266	$2,561,265
1903	404,301,114	5,040,508	2,025,277
1902	422,607,090	5,047,676	2,690,159
1901	412,941,425	4,551,041	2,724,901
1900	374,159,726	4,210,724	2,816,834
1899	363,144,035	4,084,533	2,079,477
1898	329,803,376	3,777,646	1,606,353
1897	321,125,298	3,705,539	1,961,601
1896	270,177,967	3,566,399	1,994,466
1895	288,293,132	3,705,671	2,101,306
1894	268,107,483	3,480,429	2,106,287
1893	285,732,734	3,545,254	2,203,563
1892	270,191,343	3,491,085	1,845,974
1891	266,333,028	3,255,111	1,791,410
1880 to 1890, inclusive	2,133,328,452	25,729,627	15,093,769

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 55.2. The percentage in 1905 was 57.3.

Fire Insurance Business in Louisiana in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$12,130,307	$199,591	$56,996
Agricultural, Watertown	795,100	14,418	14,944
Allemannia, Pittsburgh	121,110	2,533	------
Alliance, London	283,524	3,026	5,285
American, Boston	1,113,067	17,090	8,828

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
American, Newark	1,332,806	19,787	396
American Central, St. Louis	1,796,451	27,886	16,453
American Fire, Philadelphia	1,804,445	27,794	24,800
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	613,177	15,024	3,631
Assurance Company of New York	1,261,776	11,343	3,949
Atlanta Birmingham, Birmingham	1,789,945	28,085	14,424
Atlanta Home, Atlanta	687,672	10,249	4,418
Atlas, London	2,387,777	41,746	21,934
Austin Fire, Austin	425,692	9,101	2,791
British America, Toronto	911,976	16,305	14,427
British American, New York	269,302	4,733	1,577
Caledonian, Edinburgh	797,158	12,777	2,457
Calumet Fire, Chicago	1,001,998	14,501	602
Camden, Camden	793,327	16,924	10,715
Citizens, St. Louis	692,740	16,102	8,910
City of New York, New York	405,805	6,158	------
Cologne Reinsurance, Cologne	536,594	10,875	18,765
Colonial, Washington	100,381	2,353	3,019
Colonial, New York	710,804	10,692	1,587
Commercial, Houston	53,819	720	------
Commercial Union, London	2,920,212	61,022	24,387
Commercial Union Fire, New York	170,751	2,906	2,007
Concordia Fire, Milwaukee	906,264	11,230	4,815
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	1,181,100	16,064	4,071
Continental, New York	5,709,312	59,265	21,700
Delaware, Philadelphia	452,087	7,744	------
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	534,162	7,264	1,104
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	882,883	18,838	8,711
Eagle Fire, New York	667,538	10,010	30
Empire City Fire, New York	383,620	4,817	2,323
Equitable F. and M., Providence	581,937	11,951	8,362
Federal, Jersey City	1,120,159	12,523	9,459
Fire Association, Philadelphia	3,071,812	68,770	29,534
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	2,770,661	56,184	39,567
Georgia Home, Columbus	1,403,041	22,480	14,859
German, Freeport, Ill	5,936,449	95,943	55,129
German Alliance, New York	281,182	5,769	9,530
German American, New York	2,766,893	55,146	43,008
German American, Philadelphia	83,927	1,172	------
Germania Fire, New Orleans	6,120,567	66,425	36,444
Germania Fire, New York	719,297	8,981	589
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	481,325	9,045	2,628
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	3,763,487	96,814	35,244
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	1,095,232	21,228	15,375
Hamilton Fire, New York	155,938	4,203	------
Hanover Fire, New York	1,432,361	27,617	21,533
Hartford Fire, Hartford	10,813,315	196,797	67,219
Hibernia, New Orleans	5,647,651	50,078	15,529
Home, New York	9,727,155	144,123	51,134
Indemnity Fire, New York	193,681	2,201	905
Insurance Company of N. America	4,072,693	87,205	36,970
La Fayette Fire, New Orleans	4,125,936	46,950	20,838
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverp'l	18,569,137	245,563	65,564
Liverpool & London & Globe, N. Y.	218,064	15,563	6,921
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	2,183,748	35,171	16,948
London Assurance Corporation	534,651	11,608	6,630
Louisiana Fire, New Orleans	215,862	4,802	2,857
Louisville, Louisville	322,199	5,118	1,722
Mechanics and Traders, New Orleans	4,055,666	60,065	22,661
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston	269,231	6,139	906
Metropolitan, Chicago	334,647	6,195	1,175
Michigan Commercial, Lansing	264,881	4,789	992
Michigan Fire and Marine, Detroit	465,910	9,273	6,849
Michigan Millers Mutual, Lansing	243,393	4,399	885
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	841,984	11,509	8,402
Moscow Fire, Moscow	1,580,911	30,537	22,568
Munich Reinsurance, Munich	10,501,571	180,487	60,839
National Fire, Hartford	4,627,094	81,972	39,042
National Union, Pittsburgh	1,896,244	22,444	15,663
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	2,331,475	52,047	21,480
New York Fire, New York	231,949	4,177	102
Niagara Fire, New York	1,668,413	31,040	11,240
North British & Mercantile, London	3,463,984	55,103	28,549
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	193,450	2,681	51
Northern, New York	1,073,812	24,944	7,284
Northern, London	1,344,883	13,879	10,648
North German Fire, New York	300,679	6,981	1,927
North River, New York	866,121	16,552	211
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	629,792	5,142	3,767
Norwich Union, Norwich	1,479,351	29,799	16,254
Orient, Hartford	1,653,703	32,024	11,650
Palatine, London	1,528,794	34,292	12,201
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	1,807,733	36,157	11,956
Phenix, Brooklyn	5,543,130	151,028	54,963
Phœnix, Hartford	3,780,121	58,550	39,325
Phœnix, London	1,959,599	49,179	50,284
Providence Washington, Providence	2,538,581	48,237	29,653
Prussian National, Stettin	1,436,916	11,963	5,359
Queen City Fire, Sioux Falls	75,695	1,688	------
Queen, New York	2,356,959	40,845	36,022
Rochester German, Rochester	458,196	8,667	------
Royal, Liverpool	8,368,192	136,548	69,705
Royal Exchange, London	1,808,474	30,179	14,185
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	3,342,965	29,277	17,725
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	2,462,164	40,487	15,298
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh	1,008,439	19,607	10,973
Security, New Haven	708,307	11,000	41
Shawnee, Topeka	336,265	5,483	------
Skandia, Stockholm	1,285,272	25,322	13,831
Southern, New Orleans	3,537,990	55,051	22,956
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	1,710,448	31,646	19,064
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	1,138,223	18,951	2,221
State Fire, Liverpool	13,323	428	------
Sun, London	1,641,763	28,351	9,487
Sun, New Orleans	7,180,317	115,079	37,637
Svea, Gothenburg	1,365,716	20,338	------
T. and C. Company, Dallas	253,200	3,295	368
Teutonia, New Orleans	10,722,594	104,280	58,970
Toledo F. and M., Toledo	179,850	4,525	------
Traders, Chicago	980,635	20,389	9,258
Union, London	694,527	10,847	6,508
United States Fire, New York	36,583	1,759	6,613
Virginia F. and M., Richmond	2,352,700	43,698	22,626
Virginia State, Richmond	1,415,201	28,847	11,060
Westchester Fire, New York	1,038,814	14,517	10,031
Western, Toronto	1,808,019	29,292	24,708
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	590,449	8,739	6,068
Totals, 1905	$252,818,340	$4,119,122	$1,841,510
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$290,953,697	$4,482,691	$1,676,454
1903	231,976,136	3,758,476	1,282,564
1902	211,632,899	3,248,219	1,477,372
1901	235,007,077	3,035,549	1,500,208
1900	241,252,011	3,085,921	1,097,176
1899	236,739,419	2,963,829	1,587,574
1898	221,232,584	2,790,257	1,264,436
1897	208,507,290	2,673,376	1,160,095
1896	202,022,623	2,604,168	1,206,337
1895	211,320,440	2,742,979	1,928,539
1894	197,442,627	2,649,323	1,321,848
1893	200,834,594	2,487,505	1,117,712
1892	165,362,027	1,812,747	2,109,993
1880 to 1890	2,414,832,371	24,770,343	11,825,183

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 48.1. The percentage in 1905 was 44.7.

Fire Insurance Business in West Virginia in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$450,559	$7,113	$3,171
Ætna, Hartford	2,451,077	39,996	13,394
Agricultural, Watertown	370,000	5,065	170
American, Boston	1,239,341	21,155	15,464
American, Newark	596,285	8,971	2,881
American Fire, Philadelphia	1,029,818	13,726	9,883
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	816,549	20,536	11,525
Armenia, Pittsburgh	333,190	9,404	7,063
Assurance Company of New York	349,700	4,629	3,061
Atlanta Birmingham, Atlanta	695,824	15,222	11,021
Atlas, London	307,501	4,793	903
British America, Toronto	603,713	10,491	3,819
British American, New York	83,849	1,249	494
Caledonian, Edinburgh	457,968	6,014	566
Calumet Fire, Chicago	344,345	6,934	20
Camden Fire, Camden	765,838	16,478	6,786
Citizens, St. Louis	1,115,701	23,508	11,137
Cologne Reinsurance, Cologne	276,982	4,826	2,001
Columbia, Jersey City	200	25	------
Commercial Union, London	1,729,817	26,131	7,121
Commercial Union, New York	111,377	1,123	284
Continental, New York	2,517,727	46,224	11,896
Cooper, Dayton	446,187	6,936	788
Delaware, Philadelphia	124,863	2,006	1,915
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	822,489	18,148	13,374
Eagle Fire, New York	987,645	17,348	1,996
Equitable Fire and Marine	295,540	4,524	3,327
Equitable Fire, Charleston	461,116	10,187	5,518
Farmers and Merchants, Lincoln	215,580	4,620	1,578
Federal, Jersey City	260,750	3,483	3,526
Fire Association, Philadelphia	1,724,400	31,800	15,427
Firemen's, Newark	426,195	4,748	1,317
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	1,098,209	15,785	4,483
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	292,225	3,988	4,964
Franklin Fire and Marine, Wheeling	3,507,020	51,518	28,079
Georgia Home, Columbus	1,612,259	26,239	15,323
German, Freeport, Ill	1,571,271	22,356	4,083
German Fire, Peoria	629,706	14,524	8,826
German, Indianapolis	4,900	55	------
German, Pittsburgh	817,252	14,697	6,423
German Fire, Wheeling	2,757,415	38,614	7,969
German Alliance, New York	804,022	13,084	9,817
German-American, New York	2,864,202	40,597	17,721
German American, Pittsburgh	424,490	6,878	625
German National, Chicago	484,852	9,397	116
Germania Fire, New York	1,270,984	18,223	2,545
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	564,822	9,179	2,178
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	772,357	9,528	398
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	1,354,457	25,255	13,595
Hamilton Fire, New York	152,819	3,502	------
Hanover Fire, New York	1,216,615	21,480	13,307
Hartford Fire, Hartford	6,272,591	108,657	56,661
Home, New York	6,609,758	89,045	43,084
Home F. and M., San Francisco	101,573	1,736	122
Indemnity Fire, New York	325,686	5,277	1,745
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	555,815	12,579	715
Insurance Company of N. America	1,448,699	25,185	9,381
Law Union and Crown, London	147,750	2,193	498
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverpool	2,126,217	27,379	14,343
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	402,642	6,381	7,020

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
London Assurance Corporation	1,263,524	24,020	12,505
Louisville, Louisville	303,083	7,053	4,087
Mechanics and Traders, New Orleans	115,857	1,582	------
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	570,560	8,926	5,147
Moscow, Moscow	166,669	2,633	1,780
National Fire, Hartford	1,806,991	31,568	7,601
National Union, Pittsburgh	1,214,981	21,257	8,524
New York Fire, New York	419,984	7,229	4,854
Niagara Fire, New York	1,530,629	26,910	17,301
North British and Mercantile, London	1,627,566	27,084	17,605
North German, New York	432,040	7,390	3,021
North River, New York	1,049,708	20,892	1,950
Northern, London	827,241	14,143	3,871
Norwich Union, Norwich	1,037,850	17,629	2,085
Orient, Hartford	311,775	3,966	2,868
Palatine, London	396,401	5,626	2,590
Pelican, New York	348,116	5,471	1,704
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	1,151,728	17,518	10,729
Peter Cooper, New York	232,294	4,431	2,365
Phenix, Brooklyn	2,437,408	45,641	19,942
Phœnix, Hartford	1,239,953	16,110	2,649
Phœnix, London	4,286,068	74,663	35,270
Providence Washington, Providence	1,978,483	30,419	14,962
Prudential, Tazewell	1,940,716	40,032	27,548
Prussian National, Stettin	564,811	6,667	2,459
Queen, New York	1,123,100	19,210	10,787
Reliance, Philadelphia	274,916	3,594	1,510
Rochester German, Rochester	898,626	19,285	12,089
Royal, London	1,673,204	26,053	19,368
Royal Exchange, London	------	------	495
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	1,150,118	20,557	5,900
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	304,692	4,484	1,806
Scottish Union and National, Edinb'h.	377,304	6,242	3,447
Security, New Haven	737,693	12,125	4,028
Security, Baltimore	302,091	5,448	431
Skandia, Stockholm	123,250	2,079	2,409
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	1,060,482	14,011	10,153
Southern, New Orleans	221,037	4,083	3,009
Sun, London	782,733	11,438	5,596
Teutonia, New Orleans	538,700	11,350	3,508
Teutonia, Dayton	198,237	2,398	9
Toledo Fire and Marine, Toledo	215,450	4,789	12
Traders, Chicago	522,694	7,479	2,120
Union, Philadelphia	289,192	4,045	817
Union, London	218,473	4,035	2,875
Union Fire, Buffalo	134,100	2,454	1,239
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	515,617	10,046	19
United States Fire, New York	1,035,797	23,156	13,032
Victoria, New York	17,500	206	------
Virginia State, Richmond	1,031,086	30,359	17,621
Westchester Fire, New York	491,839	9,150	3,584
Western, Pittsburgh	75,550	1,019	------
Western, Toronto	1,340,349	16,159	11,539
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	536,012	9,298	4,121
Totals, 1905	$106,047,012	$1,774,156	$800,398
Comparison With Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$90,693,328	$1,558,850	$663,290
1903	88,533,549	1,413,698	496,323
1902	77,659,358	1,145,251	758,978
1901	70,694,063	950,853	589,764
1900	61,545,822	783,779	441,317
1899	48,700,435	615,765	370,350
1898	39,323,008	527,848	284,951
1897	41,024,075	552,550	259,153
1896	34,547,962	461,548	183,044
1895	34,360,149	472,023	274,024
1894	33,034,554	476,487	274,353
1893	33,484,178	401,326	275,440
1892	38,092,987	469,386	224,031
1891	35,126,429	427,604	195,085
1880 to 1890	376,672,319	3,205,247	1,826,946

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 51.9. The percentage in 1905 was 45.2.

Fire Insurance Business in Pennsylvania in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$7,650,714	$102,299	$33,445
Ætna, Hartford	43,255,293	523,974	207,817
Agricultural, Watertown	16,649,200	184,385	44,765
Albany, Albany	3,080,859	39,901	15,462
Allemannia Fire, Pittsburgh	13,737,258	176,739	65,681
Alliance, Philadelphia	4,273,118	57,479	9,004
Alliance, London	1,798,452	14,837	3,739
American, Boston	5,296,335	63,095	18,581
American, Newark	7,316,654	88,765	22,705
American Central, St. Louis	9,022,492	125,749	43,001
American Fire, Philadelphia	22,527,111	287,258	130,842
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	2,282,717	43,194	27,286
Armenia, Pittsburgh	3,362,193	41,698	21,651
Assurance Company, New York	3,467,499	32,344	12,900
Atlanta Birmingham, Atlanta	147,250	2,110	------
Atlas, London	7,595,630	101,948	32,204
Ben Franklin, Philadelphia	12,688,892	165,386	62,974
Birmingham Fire, Philadelphia	3,920,364	45,084	10,625
Boston, Boston	8,539,019	102,119	38,587
British America, Toronto	6,982,221	89,384	31,581
British American, New York	1,354,937	17,417	3,076
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	1,854,191	22,422	8,961
Buffalo German, Buffalo	2,069,413	24,473	8,855
Caledonian, Edinburgh	6,597,900	87,383	29,319
Caledonian American, New York	454,179	5,791	1,753
Calumet Fire, Chicago	1,349,598	17,548	676
Camden Fire, Camden	9,532,552	127,698	29,134
Capital Fire, Concord	3,346,187	40,953	10,413
Citizens, St. Louis	9,293,409	143,045	52,176
City of of New York, New York	982,091	12,544	2,432
City, Pittsburgh	1,690,472	16,766	5,191
Cologne Reinsurance, Cologne	4,871,749	65,955	40,956
Colonial, Washington	1,147,492	17,006	7,932
Colonial Assurance, New York	3,014,932	42,236	24,859
Commerce, Albany	2,043,102	22,030	5,757
Commonwealth, New York	3,047,938	30,408	8,369
Commercial Union, London	12,603,191	142,149	59,361
Commercial Union, New York	957,001	11,031	2,080
Concordia, Milwaukee	2,660,583	32,663	15,454
Conestoga Fire, Lancaster	936,961	*14,054	5,860
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	15,384,600	210,668	93,905
Continental, New York	30,060,323	362,560	107,512
County Fire Ins. Co. of Philadelphia	4,108,129	49,728	16,964
Delaware, Philadelphia	14,373,234	160,958	61,083
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	1,224,563	14,626	2,229
Dubuque Fire and Marine, Dubuque	646,198	8,707	514
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	2,993,827	43,394	17,340
Eagle Fire, New York	3,719,534	49,042	4,451
Eastern Fire, Atlantic City	2,743,162	31,425	13,167
Empire City Fire, New York	2,156,073	30,758	18,982
Equitable Fire & Marine, Providence	4,927,728	54,739	29,194
Farmers and Merchants, Lincoln	814,266	11,088	4,363
Farmers Fire, York	13,343,558	184,721	105,031
Federal, Jersey City	3,105,556	28,614	6,821
Fire Association, Philadelphia	40,357,590	450,705	169,289
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	17,940,970	219,912	86,896
Firemen's, Newark	9,369,455	100,938	34,487
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	9,076,411	138,151	73,315
Georgia Home, Columbus	553,551	5,382	729
German, Freeport	22,784,020	237,448	90,335
German, Peoria	4,215,396	55,113	13,366
German Alliance, New York	2,668,768	35,982	21,618
German American, Baltimore	3,191,452	34,579	11,667
German American, New York	34,660,818	402,129	160,290
German American, Philadelphia	6,483,123	84,383	27,079
German Fire, Pittsburgh	10,999,189	136,576	32,228
German Fire, Wheeling	1,266,505	16,275	8,607
German National, Chicago	5,636,707	76,338	16,541
Germania Fire, New York	21,125,556	230,224	71,270
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	15,618,632	123,338	34,377
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	10,271,247	104,320	32,748
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	14,415,863	276,286	75,724
Granite State, Portsmouth	2,460,628	32,561	11,713
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	10,232,890	136,921	44,704
Hanover Fire, New York	12,976,781	182,855	77,828
Hartford Fire, Hartford	60,959,796	822,544	270,437
Home, New York	70,199,086	702,967	311,241
Home F. and M., San Francisco	7,708,748	95,462	27,983
Humboldt Fire	12,797,742	135,776	51,925
Indemnity Fire, New York	1,526,218	20,058	5,183
India Mutual, Boston	2,743,012	36,612	17,108
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	2,813,946	44,694	13,889
Insurance Co. of North America	51,780,902	677,385	284,848
Ins. Co. State of Pennsylvania, Phila.	3,890,194	54,923	17,922
Jefferson Fire, Philadelphia	2,684,241	35,695	16,216
Law Union and Crown, London	1,601,403	13,169	5,283
Liv. and Lon. and Globe, Liverpool	36,893,787	506,221	222,018
Liv. and Lon. and Globe, New York	170,250	2,229	------
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	7,235,509	78,189	23,539
London Assurance Corporation	7,664,922	94,223	33,283
Lumbermen's, Philadelphia	3,811,533	38,707	10,017
Mechanics, Philadelphia	5,103,051	52,102	18,705
Mechanics and Traders, New Orleans	2,540,100	32,513	17,670
Mercantile F. and M., Boston	1,546,004	20,873	9,681
Metropolitan, Chicago	275,667	4,483	------
Michigan Commercial, Lansing	4,678,020	43,356	10,443
Michigan Fire and Marine, Detroit	1,929,713	25,612	11,096
Michigan Millers Mutual, Lansing	1,258,932	22,187	6,097
Millers National, Chicago	1,336,153	19,914	6,420
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	2,532,788	31,686	8,521
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	9,548,528	118,387	24,439
Monongahela, Pittsburgh	1,597,726	23,758	8,740
Moscow, Moscow	3,882,991	51,805	33,680
Nassau Fire, New York	3,839,657	30,892	14,927
National, Allegheny	11,019,409	123,158	34,177
National Fire, Hartford	28,170,572	369,034	139,206
National Union, Pittsburgh	6,624,991	190,933	58,737
Newark Fire, Newark	1,874,680	19,864	4,189
New Brunswick, New Brunswick	595,809	8,344	2,218
New Hampshire Fire, Concord	14,948,833	183,850	80,319
New York Fire, New York	3,631,126	50,251	21,557
Niagara Fire, New York	11,171,643	147,040	65,153
North British and Mercantile, London	23,494,980	284,302	108,456
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	1,124,860	9,526	1,295
Northern, New York	3,391,236	44,318	16,302
Northern, London	16,591,358	193,782	58,033
North German Fire, New York	1,368,569	15,015	4,401
North River, New York	7,489,736	83,100	26,790
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	13,088,349	120,800	22,880
Norwich Union, Norwich	11,959,031	156,726	58,024
Orient, Hartford	6,231,612	55,522	19,052

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Pacific Fire, New York	2,503,949	41,887	8,338
Palatine, London	5,286,246	65,485	23,125
Pelican, New York	1,056,005	15,646	8,380
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	35,389,917	367,522	142,096
Petersburgh Sav. & Ins. Co., Richmond	1,197,686	12,805	3,511
Phenix, Brooklyn	18,904,983	246,604	88,111
Phœnix, Hartford	26,084,043	302,527	91,124
Phœnix, London	14,428,264	227,367	139,788
Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh	2,761,870	30,179	13,399
Providence Washington, Providence	14,728,951	172,542	50,116
Prussian National, Stettin	8,629,723	78,738	25,162
Queen City Fire, Sioux Falls	329,446	5,212	1,117
Queen, New York	15,184,620	188,592	63,229
Reliance, Philadelphia	5,844,944	59,790	18,931
Rochester German, Rochester	5,279,777	73,003	34,663
Royal, London	33,186,896	433,292	184,019
Royal Exchange, London	4,930,804	74,909	63,734
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	11,883,323	140,376	59,402
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	4,969,505	67,210	48,954
Scottish U. and N., Edinburgh	9,285,214	130,903	60,248
Security, New Haven	7,667,051	82,314	30,438
Skandia, Stockholm	4,317,991	55,186	19,127
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	24,187,974	339,065	131,967
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	13,047,698	163,927	49,604
Standard Fire, Trenton	6,798,371	106,426	46,744
State Fire, London	784,069	9,285	2,755
Stuyvesant, New York	2,997,237	48,291	17,168
Sun, London	9,833,903	139,230	60,792
Svea Fire and Life, Gothenburg	4,475,166	58,263	24,818
Teutonia, New Orleans	4,181,504	49,810	19,031
Teutonia, Allegheny City	13,083,485	193,331	101,615
Toledo Fire and Marine, Toledo	795,282	19,389	10,181
Traders, Chicago	6,766,825	89,664	34,116
Union, Philadelphia	3,531,886	52,534	13,775
Union, Pittsburgh	2,754,142	28,297	12,931
Union, London	5,778,038	43,506	11,728
Union Fire, Buffalo	900,150	9,105	1,876
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	8,850,994	84,195	21,722
United States Fire, New York	2,912,139	37,425	16,084
Victoria Fire, New York	319,307	2,782	1,824
Virginia State, Richmond	503,716	8,262	1,588
Westchester Fire, New York	13,662,668	188,061	72,416
Western, Pittsburgh	8,014,968	100,550	39,041
Western, Toronto	13,998,910	136,153	41,027
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	6,635,385	80,154	25,135
Totals, 1905	$1,469,299,890	$18,254,545	$6,868,881
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$1,409,209,290	$17,179,484	$6,635,667
1903	1,309,523,377	16,839,302	6,628,442
1902	1,247,629,227	15,479,245	7,216,036
1901	1,197,408,311	13,703,465	6,851,900
1900	1,155,766,324	12,778,513	9,051,948
1899	1,097,119,021	11,519,276	7,766,127
1898	1,033,516,858	11,360,040	7,074,432
1897	1,004,626,158	11,061,114	6,467,602
1896	949,432,640	10,377,457	5,268,914
1895	937,277,624	10,265,067	5,094,515
1894	886,271,730	9,858,872	4,874,744
1893	938,403,423	10,125,807	6,057,111
1892	934,832,895	10,029,557	6,110,434
1891	881,296,334	9,926,961	5,746,927
1880 to 1890	7,471,077,620	77,057,877	44,646,254

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 53.5. The percentage in 1905 was 37.7.

(*Continued from page* 483.)

son of James W. Alexander; William H. McIntyre, former fourth vice president; James H. Hyde, George T. Wilson, third vice president; Thomas D. Jordan, former controller of the Equitable; Gage E. Tarbell, second vice president; Sir William C. Van Horne, Henry R. Winthrop, treasurer; C. B. Alexander, of the law firm of Alexander & Green; John J. McCook, Valentine P. Snyder, president of the National Bank of Commerce; T. De Witt Cuyler, Levi P. Morton, James B. Forgan, H. C. Haarstick, F. F. de Navarro and Paul Morton.

The amended charter of the Equitable provides that the classes of 1906 and 1909 shall retire automatically this December, and that one director shall be chosen by lot from each one of the other classes to go out at the same time. The classes of 1906 and 1909 will retire under the present scheme, but the trustees of the Ryan stock, Grover Cleveland, Morgan J. O'Brien and George Westinghouse, in making the nominations to succeed them picked out from the entire board, in whatever classes they might be, the new men who have gone in since the reorganization, leaving corresponding vacancies to be filled in the classes of 1907 and 1908 by vote of the stock. Accordingly, these directors were renominated:

To Serve One Year—E. W. Bloomingdale, New York; Joseph Bryan, Richmond, Va.; John D. Kernan, Utica; James McMahon, Brooklyn; William E. Paine, New York; Tom Randolph, St. Louis; William Whitman, Boston.

To Serve Two Years—Abraham Brittin, New Orleans; Chas. E. Littlefield, Rockland, Me.; E. W. Robertson, Columbia, S. C.; J. G. Schmidlapp, Cincinnati; Daniel A. Tompkins, Charlotte, N. C.; Frank S. Witherbee, Port Henry, N. Y.; Chas. H. Zehnder, Philadelphia, Pa.

To Serve Three Years—John N. Beach, New York; James B. Forgan, Chicago; A. L. Humphreys, New York; John T. Manson, New Haven; William C. Redfield, Brooklyn; F. W. Roebling, Trenton; G. F. Vietor, New York.

To Serve Four Years—Thomas A. Gillespie, New York; Willis F. McCook, Pittsburgh; Eugenius H. Outerbridge, New York; Wallace L. Pierce, Boston; Thomas Spratt, Ogdensburg, N. Y.; J. Edward Swanstrom, Brooklyn; Eben E. Thomas, Easton, Pa.

These nominations were made in the "administration ticket" to fill vacancies: John T. Manson, of New Haven, president of the Yale National Bank of that city; William E. Paine, of New York, a lumber merchant; Thomas A. Gillespie, a contractor of New York and Pittsburgh; Eugenius H. Outerbridge, president of the Davies Textile Company of New York; Abraham Brittin, of New Orleans, vice president of the Canal Bank of that city and a director of the Hibernia Bank, in which the Equitable is a large stockholder. It is understood that Thomas J. Jordan, William H. McIntyre and H. M. Alexander will not be reappointed to the board by the trustees of the Ryan stock when they come to name the twenty-four directors who are to constitute the stockholders' representatives in the board.

The following letter from the trustees of the Ryan stock was read at Thursday's meeting of the directors:

120 Broadway, June 21, 1906.

To the Board of Directors of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, 120 Broadway, New York City:

Gentlemen—In compliance with the request of the board the undersigned (Mr. Westinghouse being absent abroad) beg leave to suggest the names of twenty-eight policyholders of the society as suitable persons to be placed on the administration ticket as policyholding directors to be voted for by the policyholders of the society at the next annual election of directors, to be held in December next, in pursuance of the charter as amended.

It will be noticed upon an examination of the lists that we have submitted the names of the present policyholding directors who have been elected by us or upon our recommendation with the exception of two, who did not desire to serve further, and one, who, being a stockholder, preferred to remain a stockholding director. In their place and to make up the allotted number of twenty-eight, we have selected six additional policyholders, which will complete the number which you have requested us to suggest to you for consideration. Yours very truly,

Grover Cleveland,
Morgan J. O'Brien,

The two directors who did not desire to serve further are ex-Judge D. Cady Herrick and J. J. Albridge, of Buffalo. The stockholder referred to is T. De Witt Cuyler, of Philadelphia.

The directors appointed Grover Cleveland, Justice O'Brien and George Westinghouse to receive proxies, either jointly or severally, to be voted for the nominees. The officers of the society were authorized to file the lists of policyholders and do any and all necessary acts to carry out the terms of the amended charter and comply with Section 94 of the general insurance law.

After Insurance Superintendent Kelsey had approved the amended Equitable charter on Thursday he received a protest against it from Franklin B. Lord, representing the minority stockholders. Superintendent Kelsey said that the protest called

for no action on his part, as the point at issue was before the courts.

Condemned in England—The Course of the North British Mercantile Against the Mutual Life.

(The Commercial World, London.)

The fact remains that for the first time in the history of the business a life assurance company of high standing has accepted a list of the customers of a rival institution and has issued to them an invitation to sever their connection with the company with which they made their contracts and "come over" in a body, an inauguration of the "twist" system in high places with a vengeance, and, we very much fear, the thin end of a wedge which may drive some very transforming influences into the ethics of insurance business.

Once it is admitted that the conduct of the North British and Mercantile is correct, once the principle of issuing a circular of invitation to any dissatisfied body of policyholders is accepted, a new and dangerous force is imparted to life assurance competition, and no one can say to what evils it will lead. It has been pointed out, for instance, that the North British and Mercantile, though one of our soundest and most attractive life offices, is surpassed both in financial strength and in bonus record by some of its rivals. How would it relish the irony of fate if some embittered ex-official were to go about suggesting to, let us say, one of the great "mutuals" that its directors should circularize the policyholders of the North British and Mercantile, drawing attention to the greater strength and higher bonus of the Mutual institution, and offering to take them over en masse without medical examination?

It is, of course, most unlikely that the North British will ever be in such an unfavorable plight that its life policyholders would be willing to desert it, but already the Americans are talking of "retaliation," and if the three giants of New York were to join hands against the North British they might conceivably deal some extremely damagaing counterblows at the British company. With some of the smaller life offices—those which have not had time to accumulate great financial ballast or to make large profits—and with companies passing through a transitional stage (as from a policy of expansion to one of curtailment), and compelled by financial exigencies to withhold bonuses from participating policyholders, the danger would be both real and apparent, if the precedent of the North British deal were made a justification for inviting other companies' clients to transfer this business on the ground that they could do better elsewhere.

But we may be sure legislation would step in to regulate the whole system if the life assurance business, abrogating all its dignity and its principles, forgetting its ancient traditions and descending from the high plane it occupies, should ever be permitted to lapse into a game of beggar-my-neighbor. We, however, are not disposed to expect the worst, but rather the best, for on all sides and from the highest professional authority to the least pretentious practitioner in the business, the predominant opinion is that a bad example is being set and that we are likely to suffer severely in lands beyond the seas if this new and objectionable element in insurance competition is not strongly reprobated and promptly stamped out. We cannot believe that life assurance business will ever be degraded into a scramble for other people's property, and we cling to a conviction that the life offices of this country will continue to take their duties and responsibilities too seriously to permit them to countenance a form of competition which would discredit the rivalries of suburban haberdashers.

AMERICAN
INSURANCE COMPANY
OF NEWARK, N. J.

ORGANIZED 1846.

Assets, Jan. 1st, 1906..... $6,005,357.60
Cash Capital..... 600,000.00
Net Surplus..... 2,430,459.41

FIRE AND TORNADO INSURANCE

The Mutual Benefit
LIFE INSURANCE CO.
NEWARK, N. J.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, PRESIDENT.

Assets (Market Values), Jan. 1, 1906..... $99,127,140
Liabilities 91,548,087
Surplus 7,576,303

MUTUAL BENEFIT POLICIES contain special and peculiar advantages which are not combined in the policies of any other company.

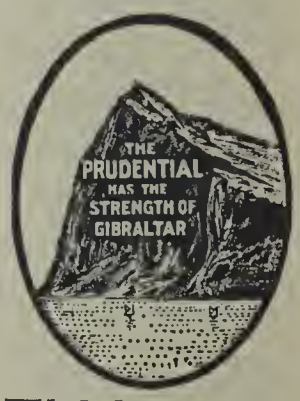
YOUNG MEN MAKE MONEY

There are opportunities to represent a big, sound, up-to-date Life Insurance Company in a profitable manner.

Prudential representatives make money. They have most varied forms of policies and advantageous contracts, with liberal commissions.

The attention of young men, particularly young men starting in business, is especially sought.

Write for full information regarding these unusual opportunities.



THE PRUDENTIAL
INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA
Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey.
JOHN F. DRYDEN, President Home Office, Newark, N. J.

CHARTERED 1866.
Hartford Life Insurance Co.
HARTFORD, CONN.
GEO. E. KENNEY, President. CHAS. H. BACALL, Secretary.

Up to date in business methods—in contracts—in plans. BEST Insurance to Buy or to Sell. Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Policies become Endowments at Age Eighty automatically.

$27,807,910 Paid to Beneficiaries.
Liberal Contracts for Business Getters.
INVESTIGATE.

INCORPORATED 1865.
GERMAN INSURANCE CO.
OF FREEPORT, ILL.
The Largest and Most Successful Fire Insurance Company in the West.

Assets, January 1, 1906..... $6,148,738
Cash Capital..... 200,000
Liabilities, including reinsurance..... 3,996,673
Net Surplus..... 1,952,065

C. O. COLLMAN, Pres. HENRY BAIER, Vice-Pres. D. B. SCHULTE, Treas.
WM. TREMBOR, Sec. F. M. GUND, Sec.

1825. THE 1906.
Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital..... $400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities..... 3,619,488.08
Surplus 3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906..... $7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE
Insurance Company.
1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization
A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906		$13,015,852
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims	$6,389,121	
Capital Stock	3,000,000	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,731	$13,015,852

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

Scottish Union & National Ins. Co.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

No. 35 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
No. 3 King William Street, E. C., London.

United States Branch: Hartford, Conn.

The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$2,960,364
Total Liabilities, except Capital	1,603,103
Joint Stock Capital	500,000

Head Office for the United States:

57 and 59 William Street,

NEW YORK.

A. G. McIlwaine, Jr., Manager.

Provident Life and Trust Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

The best in Life Insurance is likely to be the cheapest. The same fidelity, skill and care which are necessary to guarantee the future security of a company result in the lowest cost. A good test, therefore, is to determine whether the organization and the surroundings of a company exclude all doubt as to future security. In determining this the question of cost is determined also. THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY invites inquiry as to its organization and the provisions for safety afforded. For the full period of its existence the death rate has been only .614 of the rate indicated by the authoritative tables.

PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

This Company has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other Company, and for each of the last 12 years has had more New Insurances accepted and issued in America than any other Company.

The Number of Policies in force is greater than that of any other Company in America, greater than all the Regular Life Insurance Companies put together (less one) and can only be appreciated by comparison. It is a greater number than the Combined Population of Greater York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Milwaukee.

ASSETS, $151,663,477.29

Largest Office Building in the World—Madison Avenue, Fourth Avenue, 23d Street and 24th Street, New York City.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS

This Company's Policy-claims paid in 1905 averaged in number one for each minute and a fourth of each business day of 8 hours each and in amount $105.83 a minute the year through.

THE DAILY AVERAGE OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS DURING 1905:

395 per day in number of Claims Paid.
6,972 per day in number of Policies issued.
$1,502,484 per day in New Insurance Written.
$123,788.29 per day in Payments to Policyholders and addition to Reserve.
$77,275.94 per day in Increase of Assets.

HOME OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Company OF the People, BY the People, FOR the People

ASSETS.

United States, City and R. R. Bonds and Stocks.	$79,629,477.18
Bonds and Mortgages..	38,062,610.75
Real Estate.....	17,495,905.30
Cash	4,183,912.16
Demand Loans on Collateral	3,747,285.50
Loans to Policyholders.	3,703,554.50
Prem. deferred and in course of collection (net)	3,826,755.63
Accrued Int., Rents, etc.	1,013,976.27
Total	$151,663,477.29

LIABILITIES.

Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserves.....	$132,705,296.00
All other Liabilities.....	2,776,602.33
Capital and Surplus....	16,181,578.96
Total	$151,663,477.29

Paid to Policyholders since Organization, plus the Amount now invested for their Security..... $318,264,084.12

Number of Policies in Force, 8,596,705.

Amount of Outstanding Insurance.....$1,596.509,769.00

In its Ordinary Department policies are issued for from $1,000 to $1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable annually, semi-annually and quarterly. In its Industrial Department policies are issued on all the insurable members of the family for weekly premiums.

Full particulars regarding the plans of the Metropolitan may be obtained at its Home Office, 1 Madison Ave., New York City, or of its Agents in all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

OFFICERS

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
HALEY FISKE, Vice President.
GEORGE H. GASTON, 2d Vice President.
GEORGE B. WOODWARD, 3d Vice Pres.
FRANK O. AYRES, 4th Vice Pres.
JAMES M. CRAIG, Actuary.
FREDERICK H. ECKER, Comptroller.
JAMES S. ROBERTS, Secretary.
JOHN R. HEGEMAN, Jr., Asst. Sec.
J. J. THOMPSON, Cashier and Asst. Sec.
T. R. RICHARDSON, Asst. Sec.
F. F. TAYLOR, Asst. Sec.
STEWART L. WOODFORD, Counsel.
THOMAS H. WILLARD, M. D., Med. Di.
AUGUSTUS S. KNIGHT, M. D., Med. Di.
W. S. MANNERS, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
E. M. HOLDEN, M. D., Asst. Med. Di.
I. J. CAHEN, Manager Ordinary Dept.

The Preferred Accident Insurance Co. OF NEW YORK.

Accident Policies. Health Policies.

Large Benefits, Low Rates, Best Commissions.

January 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,319,514
Surplus	474,634

KIMBALL C. ATWOOD, Sec., 290 Broadway, NEW YORK.

Royal INSURANCE COMPANY (FIRE) OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

Agencies in all the principal cities, towns and villages in the United States.

SUN
Insurance Office of London

FOUNDED 1710.

United States Branch: 54 Pine St., New York.

Western Department: 171 La Salle St., Chicago.
Pacific Department: 215 Sansome St., San Francisco.

GERMANIA

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

NEW YORK.

ORGANIZED 1859.

Cash Capital	$1,000,000.00
Assets	6,835,785.78
Net Surplus	2,889,660.92

HEAD OFFICE

Cor. William and Cedar treets

The Empire State Surety Co.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 34 PINE ST., NEW YORK

391 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN

General Surety Bonds Liability, Plate Glass, Burglary, Boiler, Personal Accident and Health Insurance.

JOHN G. JENKINS, . . . *Chairman*
WILLIAM M. TOMLINS, JR., . *President*
EDMUND H. DRIGGS, . *Vice-President*
DANIEL STEWART, . . . *Secretary*

THE STANDARD LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY OF DETROIT, MICH.

INCORPORATED 1884.

All forms of Accident, Sickness and Liability Insurance.

D. M. FERRY, PRESIDENT.
E. A. LEONARD, SECRETARY.
W. C. MAYBURY, MNG. DIRECTOR.

Cash Capital, $250,000.00

C. A. TIMEWELL, Mgr. Metropolitan Dept., 92 William St. N. Y. City.

HANOVER

Agencies in all the Principal Places in the United States.

Fire Insurance Company OF NEW YORK.

The Union Central Life

INSURANCE COMPANY,

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE GREAT POLICYHOLDERS' COMPANY.

Assets, January 1, 1906	$50,019,667.03
Liabilities	41,289,151.01
Gross Surplus	8,730,516.02

No Fluctuating Securities. Largest Rate of Interest.

Low Death Rate.

Large and Increasing Dividends to Policyholders.

Desirable Contracts and Good Territory Open for Live Agents.

Address JOHN M. PATTISON, President.

National Life Insurance Co.

MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Established in 1850. Operating in 44 States.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, President.
JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President.
JAMES B. ESTEE, 2d Vice-President.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary.
H. M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
A. B. BISBEE, Medical Director.
C. E. MOULTON, Actuary.
F. A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1906, and gained during the past decade:

Assets	$34,519,093.04	Gain, 184 per cent.
Surplus	3,821,752.51	Gain, 165 per cent.
Insurance	145,480,904.00	Gain, 109 per cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.

A. H. GSELLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY

OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

NEW YORK OFFICE:

68 WILLIAM STREET.

The 1906 Volume of

THE RECORD OF

FIRE INSURANCE BY STATES

IS NOW READY FOR DELIVERY

Showing the business done by each Stock Fire Insurance Company in each State and Territory in the United States for 25 years and for 1905, 26 years in all, as follows:

Risks Written, Premiums Received and Losses Paid in each State from 1880 to 1905 inclusive.

Risks Written, Premiums Received, Losses Paid and Losses Incurred during 1905 in each State.

Average rate of Premium, ratio of Losses to Premiums and Losses to Risks written for 25 years and for 1905.

A table showing companies retired from each State since 1880 and the number of years they transacted business in each State.

What Subscribers Say:

"I have found the records to be of **inestimable value** time and time again."—*H. C. Stockdell, General Agent Phenix Insurance Company, Atlanta, Ga., March 15, 1906.*

"I have always regarded this as **one of the most useful reference books published.**"—*Paul Turner, Special Agent German American Insurance Company, Baltimore, Md., March 15, 1906.*

"We consider this a most valuable book of fire underwriting statistics, and **are very anxious indeed to receive it.**"—*F. M. Gund, Secretary German Insurance Company, Freeport, Ill., June 2, 1905.*

"We long ago realized the good of these classified records, but have never purchased same on account of the expense. However, we do believe it will be a good idea for us to have the book on hand, so have concluded to have you forward us a copy, realizing as we do that there is **a wonderful amount of information** contained therein, and that we will undobtedly get the benefit of our money before the year draws to a close."—*McNear & Wayman, General Agents, San Francisco, Cal., March 23, 1905.*

"It is needless to say that we find the publication useful."—*Herbert Folger, General Agent, San Francisco, Cal., May 10, 1904.*

"We consider this book one of the most valuable, if not **the most valuable reference rate book** that comes to this office."—*Bernard Faymonville, Vice President Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, San Francisco, Cal., March 30, 1903.*

"Yours is the **only real correct record of the kind** I have seen."—*H. F. Cornell, General Agent, Detroit, Mich., March 18, 1902.*

"We find these **figures are of great value.**"—*Clarence F. Low, Resident Secretary Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company, New Orleans, La., March 22, 1902.*

"I quite appreciate the value of your publication, 'Fire Insurance by States,' having been a subscriber for same very nearly if not quite ever since you issued it, at all events since 1888, since when I have **a complete set at my elbow for handy reference.**"—*William J. Dutton, President Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, San Francisco, Cal., May 10, 1904.*

"We find this book **very useful indeed,** and have had it on our files for many years."—*George H. Tyson, General Agent, San Francisco, Cal., March 25, 1902.*

"The record of 'Fire Insurance by States' is **a most excellent piece of statistical work.**"—*Pacific Coast Department Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Company, San Francisco, Cal., March 25, 1902.*

"It is **the book of all others most desired** by the writer."—*J. R. Cravens, General Agent, Dallas, Tex., June 7, 1901.*

"I find the book **very intersteing and useful.**"—*John W. Gordon, General Agent, Richmond, Va., May 11, 1904.*

"The 'Record of Fire Insurance by States' is **a very valuable publication.**"—*Thomas Egleston, General Agent, Atlanta, Ga., May 6, 1904.*

Price, $15.00

THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER

58 William St., New York City

The Weekly Underwriter:

AN INSURANCE NEWSPAPER.

VOL. LXXIV. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1906. No. 26.

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Checks and money orders should be made payable to the order of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Entered at the New York, N. Y., Post Office as second class matter.

WE print some of the schedules and forms for the proposed life blank which were submitted this week to the committee on blanks of the National Convention of Insurance Commissioners for its consideration. An examination of at least three of them should convince the companies to be affected that it is time they were stirring if they would have a blank devoid of harmful and unnecessary features. The gain and loss exhibit has doubtless come to stay. It is called for by the Armstrong laws and by the report of the Massachusetts codifying commission, and it will find favor in numerous legislatures which will sit next winter. The original objection made to it by the companies, and finally accepted by the insurance commissioners in convention, was that it was impossible to give the information required with accuracy. The contention was credible, and yet it is obvious that no scrupulous manager of a life insurance company should attempt to carry on its business without reasonably accurate knowledge of the facts composing the gain and loss exhibit already exacted by some of the State insurance departments. If this necessary information can be acquired by the manager, it would seem that the policyholder is likewise entitled to it. At any rate it is evident that there is going to be an exhibit in use, and the companies are vitally interested in the form it will take. We invite their attention to the possibilities that threaten them in the proposed forms which we print.

IF Federal supervision of insurance needed another nail in its coffin after the adverse report of the House Judiciary Committee of Congress, the Senate Judiciary Committee has driven it. A resolution instructing the committee to inquire whether Congress has the constitutional power to enact a law establishing national control was adopted in the early weeks of the present session following the introduction of the Morrell and Dryden bills. The committee made a report to the Senate this week in the following terms:

> The Committee on the Judiciary beg leave to report that it is the unanimous opinion of the committee that the Congress is without authority under the Constitution to supervise and regulate the business of marine, fire and life insurance except in the District of Columbia, the Territories and the insular possessions of the United States.

The significance of the report is that like the report of the House committee it is unanimous, and that the two committees are composed of the ablest lawyers of their respective houses. The members of the Senate committee are Senators Clark, of Wyoming; Nelson, Spooner, Foraker, Dillingham, Kittredge and Knox, Republicans, and Bacon, Pettus, Culberson, Blackburn and Patterson, Democrats. We have contended from the beginning of the discussion on Federal supervision that, whatever might be its merits, it was a waste of time to look to the States for the surrender of their control over insurance to the general government. Our President, who went off "half cocked" on the subject, has already perceived his error and compromised on the Ames uniform legislation bill. The plight of our esteemed Washington and Baltimore contemporaries, who have fought so valiantly for years for their idea, is indeed dolorous, anl the latter, whistling to keep its courage up, bids us wait until another year for the Federal supervision millennium.

THE opinion held in sincerity by all life insurance authorities examined or consulted by the Armstrong Committee, that the publication and filing of the lists of policyholders of mutual life insurance companies exposed them and their accumulations to great dangers, was shared by the commission to recodify the Massachusetts insurance laws, and in refusing in its report to Governor Guild to recommend this plan for adoption the commission says:

> We are convinced that the evils attending the publication of lists of policyholders, open to everybody's examination, outweigh any possible good therefrom; and that the policyholders themselves, whose welfare the law should serve, do not desire such publication.
>
> Many policyholders regard their relations with the insurance companies as confidential, and object to such publicity. Moreover, such lists will afford unfair agents opportunity for "twisting" uninformed policyholders from one company into another, to their disadvantage; and, what is a more serious evil, will make it practicable for unscrupulous men to put their agents upon the boards for unworthy purposes. The publication of such lists also will subject the companies to process of equitable attachment at the suit of creditors, who will pursue every company in which debtors are insured, in the hope of finding policies having values not exempt from attachment.
>
> To require the filing of lists with the Insurance Commissioner, not as a public document, would put upon him a responsibility, in determining who should be allowed to see them, which he should not be called upon to bear.

The country is now witnessing the vicious effects of the New York law, in the organized movement of a combination of speculators upon the Mutual and New York Life insurance companies for the control of their five hundred millions of assets. That this combination of shrewd men would put up a plausible front was to be expected. It has succeeded in inducing by some potent means several reputable newspapers like the New York *Times* and the New York *Tribune* to espouse its purposes, and this week it published in these papers the names of several governors of States, several retired eminent statesmen, a cardinal, a Methodist bishop, a son-in-law of a President, a mine owner, a department store proprietor, two editors and other worthy persons who have been persuaded to become a committee to lend the appearance of respectability to the raid. It is obvious that not one of these busy gentlemen has the time to spare from the consideration of his own affairs to watch the methods or ascertain the ends toward which Mr. Untermyer, counsel for Mr. Thomas W. Lawson and ex-Manager Bowles, and those astute persons them-

selves, are pushing. That Mr. Lawson and his associates are spending their good dollars in large quantities in printing and mailing circulars, and employing solicitors and emissaries and the high priced Mr. Untermyer for unselfish love of the dear policyholder is not to be believed. Mr. Stuyvesant Fish thought that he believed it, but he came in closer observation of the machinery than the cardinal has, and has disappeared from the list of indorsers on his own initiative. There has been a great clamor raised this week by counsel for the combination because the management of the New York Life, like that of the Mutual Life, has refused to go to the expense of assisting the assailants by furnishing lists outside the regular course prescribed by the law. It is quite in keeping with the policy adopted by the latter that the public should be led to believe that the officers of the company are obstructing the efforts of the policyholders to obtain control of their own business. Mr. McIntosh, in the correspondence which we print, effectively disposes of that pretense.

Facts and Opinions.

The executive committee of the **National Convention of Insurance Commissioners,** consisting of Superintendents Drake, of the District of Columbia, and Vorys, of Ohio; Commissioners Cutting and Folk, of Tennessee, and Auditor Carroll, of Iowa, and the committee on blanks of the same organization, consisting of Commissioners Host, of Wisconsin; McGivney, of Louisiana, and Vorys, of Ohio; Deputy Commissioners Hadley, of Michigan, and Fletcher, of Massachusetts, and Deputy Superintendents Appleton, of New York, and Brinkerhoff, of Illinois, were in session this week at the Manhattan Hotel, New York. The executive committee fixed October 2 as the date for the annual meeting of the national convention at Washington, D. C. The committee on blanks had under consideration a number of forms submitted by insurance department officials and other persons connected with insurance. We print in this issue several of the forms intended for application to the life insurance business.

A dispatch to THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER from Los Angeles, Cal., on Thursday, announcing the **resignation of Wilbur S. Tupper** as president of the Pacific Mutual Life insurance company, was as follows:

Mr. Tupper has resigned as president and director for purely personal reasons in no way involving the company. Will announce management readjustment later. GEO. I. COCHRAN, First Vice President.

It is understood that Mr. Tupper is in Wisconsin at the present time. The report of his resignation gave more than local color to the rumor of serious embarrassment on the part of the merged companies, which was augmented by the San Francisco fire, which destroyed the home office building of the Pacific Mutual there. It is known that the merger of the Pacific with the Conservative has never been legally ratified, nor has the consent or approval of Insurance Commissioner Wolf ever been given to the merger. As it was, the name of the combined company, which was to have been known as the Pacific-Conservative Life, was not legally possible. It is rumored that the resignation of President Tupper foreshadows the wholesale removal of all the Conservative Life influences in the Pacific Mutual, which have been in charge of the company since the merger took place. The stockholders, it is stated, have been the men behind who have at last kicked so hard at the new manner of doing business that a change has been imperative. It has been believed for some time in insurance circles that the Pacific Mutual would be compelled to retire from New York State, if not from the entire East, after the first of January next owing to the provisions of the Armstrong law. To gather authentic news about the report THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER Thursday afternoon telegraphed Acting President Cochran, of the Pacific Mutual, as follows: "Rumored here you will quit Eastern States first of year. Answer." Up to the time of going to press late Friday afternoon no answer had been received. Mr. Cochran and Hermann A. Behrens, assistant to the president, and Gale B. Johnson, third vice president, were in New York city less than ten days ago, and it is known that it was then practically decided that the company should quit New York State. It was also currently reported on the street at the time of their Eastern trip that it was to interest Eastern capitalists in the merged companies that the visit East was projected. The success of their venture is not definitely known, however. Developments of the next few days and further news from the Coast are awaited with considerable interest.

A petition has been filed with the Attorney General of New York by one Frederick P. Davidson, asking that the **charters of four New York State surety companies be annulled,** and the licenses revoked of four companies of other States now operating in New York. Davidson's charge is that an unlawful combination is maintained by these companies for the purpose of keeping up rates on excise bonds. He cites against them Section 7 of the stock corporation law of New York, as follows:

No domestic stock corporation and no foreign corporation doing business in this State shall combine with any other corporation or person for the creation of a monopoly for the unlawful restraint of trade or for the prevention of competition in any necessity of life.

Officers of the New York companies above named are not inclined to worry much over Davidson's suit. President Seward, of the Fidelity and Casualty, said to a representative of this paper: "The men at the head of these companies know their business, and are not likely to be caught napping." He refused to discuss the matter further. In 1901, 1902 and 1903 there was an agreement of the companies on rates to protect themselves against disastrous rate slashing. But there being no organized office for transacting the business of the companies so agreeing, the old time rate war gradually came back, and in 1904 and 1905 conditions were as bad as ever. Early this year the companies got together again. It developed that from the beginning of the excise year, May 1, 1905, to April 1, 1906, there had been collected by the legal bureau of the excise department in actions on liquor dealers' bonds, action to recover penalties, costs in revocation proceedings, etc., $232,527.95, as compared with $131,310.82 collected during the same period last year, an increase of $101,217.13. This meant losses to the bonding companies of over $250,000 per year. An agreement, said to have been unsigned, was then made between all the companies interested in excise business in this State whereby rates were to be advanced, and all business written through the central office at 1 Madison avenue should be underwritten by the companies on a scale proportionate to the amount of excise business written by them last year. Once having written the business it rested with the company whether it should be reinsured in other companies or not. On the whole, Davidson's suit looks like a howl from the brewers, and is not causing any loss of sleep to the companies attacked.

Although the regular meetings of the **New England Insurance Exchange** are suspended for the vacation season, that body is by no means idle, and last week promulgated an

advance in rates of 20 cents over existing premiums, applying to the conflagration areas of all the cities in Massachusetts, and a number of large towns in that State, twenty-six in all. The advance does not apply to fireproof and sprinklered buildings and their contents, nor to electric railway and gas lighting plants, nor to minimum rated dwellings and their contents. It is expected that in a very brief period rating increases of the same tenor will be put into effect for the remainder of the territory of the Exchange, and returns from the New Hampshire Board of Fire Underwriters and the Providence Fire Association, which act independently of the Exchange, are awaited with interest. The Massachusetts Mutual Insurance Union is to hold a meeting today for the purpose of considering whether the companies comprising it will adopt an increase of rates concurrent with that formulated by the Exchange. The executive committee of the latter body is soon to issue suggestions for improving the fire hazards of cities and towns, by means of improving the efficiency of their fire departments, water supplies, building ordinances and electrical inspection. Compliance with these suggestions will bring about a diminution or entire extinction of the advance charge. The companies are particularly desirous that communities shall do their own inspecting of electrical installations, as is now the case in a few New England cities. It is considered that there is no particular reason why the companies should burden themselves with inspection of electrical plants, any more than with that of gas properties, especially as they are willing to make credits if relieved of such work.

The course of insurance lectures arranged for with Dr. McVay, to be given next fall for the benefit of the students of the University of Minnesota under the auspices of the Minneapolis Association of Life Underwriters, has been announced, and includes addresses on unusually interesting features of the business. All the speakers have not yet been selected, but it is practically settled that Henry C. Lippincott, of the Penn Mutual Life, will begin the series with the lecture on "The History of Life Insurance and Its Development in the United States." Joseph Ashbrook, of the Provident Life and Trust, is expected to give the lecture on "The Work of the Agent." The course of lectures follows:

October 3—The History of Life Insurance and Its Development in the United States, the Penn Mutual.

October 10—Definitions of Life Insurance Terms and Types of Policies, the State Mutual.

October 17—Computation of the Premium, The Reserve, Its Organization and Its Use, the Northwestern Mutual of Milwaukee.

October 24—The Dividend in Life Insurance, (1) Deferred; (2) Annual; the Prudential.

October 31—Assessment Insurance, the Ætna.

November 7—The Work of the Agent and His Relation to the Company and the Policyholder; the Rights of the Policyholder, the Provident Life and Trust.

November 14—Medical Selection, the Union Central.

November 21—Life Insurance as an Economical Force, the Mutual Benefit.

A contract with a lawyer is being closed by the Minneapolis Association to aid the Attorney General and Insurance Department in preventing insurance abuses and the breaking of the insurance laws.

The attorneys for the receiver of the **Traders of Chicago** have advised him that the company can collect its reinsurance in full, no matter what settlement he makes of its losses. It is now expected that not more than 50 per cent. will be paid on outstanding claims. The company has $1,800,000 of reinsurance, which cannot be collected until after the losses have been settled. As the settlements will be in full of all claims, the loss claimants will not be able to profit by this income, and it is expected that the claims for return premiums will be met almost in full, unless the reinsuring companies are able to settle on the same basis as the Traders settles. The corporation of the Traders Fire has been dissolved by the courts. This disposes of all rumors that the company might be revived after its claims had been paid. It is no longer believed that the directors will make any effort to take the company out of the hands of a receiver and settle its claims, as they have come to the conclusion that it is practically impossible to make any reasonable settlement with the San Francisco people. Had the claimants there shown any disposition to meet them half way, a number of directors had agreed to pay $600,000 out of their own pockets in order to get a release in full on claims. The expenses of the receivership will be heavy, as over fifty people are now employed and are swamped with work in handling the San Francisco losses and the thousands of claims for return premiums, etc.

For the first time in many years the **Phoenix Insurance Company of Hartford** will not pay its usual quarterly dividend of 3 per cent. next month. After considerable discussion, the directors have determined that it is not wise to declare a dividend in view of the fact that it would considerably decrease the necessary surplus, and also because of the questionable wisdom of a dividend when rates are about to be generally advanced. The following is the official announcement made to the stockholders by order of the board of directors:

The surplus of this company will be seriously depleted by the losses growing out of the great disaster at San Francisco, Cal., on the 18th, 19th and 20th of April last. As it is of the greatest importance that this safeguard, so vital to the life and prosperity of a company, should be restored as soon as possible, that sufficient surplus funds may be available for meeting further emergencies that may and probably will arise, the directors of the company have been giving the subject consideration with the care and thought that its importance demanded, and they have today decided by a unanimous vote not to declare the July quarterly dividend.

In taking this action they have had in mind:

First—The protection and promotion of the company's welfare, believing that in so doing they are safeguarding the interest of each stockholder.

Second—If the business interests of this country are to contribute toward the strengthening of the companies by paying higher rates for insurance, this company cannot consistently pay a dividend at this time.

Your board of directors is satisfied that its action is in accord with sound business principles and will meet with the hearty approval of the stockholders.

Charges of rebating in connection with policies issued by the Northwestern Mutual Life were taken up by the **Wisconsin legislative investigation committee** this week. Several witnesses were examined who declined to answer on the ground of incriminating themselves. J. W. Skinner, secretary of the company, was asked to prepare a list of the policy loans made by private persons through the company, and also a statement setting forth the expense incurred in entertaining the company's agents at the annual gatherings. J. C. Crawford, an associate actuary of the Northwestern, was examined concerning the dividends paid to policyholders. He said that the mortality gains averaged 35 per cent., of which 21.5 per cent. went to the policyholders, and the rest to the surplus fund. The committee expects to take up next the investigation of the Northwestern National Life of Minneapolis, the Federal Life of Chicago, the Minnesota Mutual of Minneapolis, and the Security Trust and Life of Pennsylvania. Some transactions of these companies alleged to be used in getting new business, which under the Wisconsin law are in the same light as rebating, will be looked into. It consists of allowing policyholders cash or credit on premiums yet due for throwing new business to the company.

A Paris cable dispatch of Wednesday states that the authorities of the **Mutual Life insurance company** of New

York, who are in Paris, including Vice President Emory McClintock, advise strongly that the French business of the company be left at a standstill. Henceforth it must be conducted at a loss, as it would be impossible to find in France sufficient investments at 4½ per cent. to employ the amount of the French premiums, as demanded by the French Government. Such investments are procurable, but not in the securities allowed under the new law. French policyholders are indignant at the thought of the company leaving because it prefers holding a larger free surplus for purposes of speculation rather than putting it in the form of a permanent guarantee for foreign business. The company has given French policyholders to understand that, if they are willing to form a class apart, receiving smaller benefits because of the more rigorous conditions in France, the company will continue to do business. The French policyholders contemplate attempting to hold a monster meeting, when the proposition will be considered. The fact that the Equitable advertises for rent an entire floor in its Paris building is considered to mean that it also is making preparations to quit. Since the above was received the Mutual has decided to quit France.

The **St. Louis Life Underwriters' Association** at its meeting on Friday of last week passed resolutions **condemnatory of the Armstrong laws** in New York in the following terms:

Whereas, It is a matter of common knowledge, and we believe has been admitted by its sponsors, that the recent legislation known as "the New York law," while it tends in the right direction, is, in many of its features, a hastily adopted political expedient, crude, and uncertain in its provisions; and

Whereas, One provision at least, in Section 97 of said law, in its effect, discriminates and singles out one class of life insurance men, restricting and interfering with their right to contract for service, and this without securing to policyholders the saving which is claimed as the object to be attained; and, as said provision in said section is unfair and un-American in spirit and perhaps unconstitutional, as it affects the rights of citizens of the United States who are engaged in a legitimate occupation as life insurance agents, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this association that the so called "New York law," as a whole, should not be indorsed or approved by life insurance agents or their associations; and that its adoption, in its present form, by the legislatures of other States should be opposed. We favor all laws which result from mature deliberation, wherever they may be necessary to secure to policyholders honest, faithful and economical administration. We desire laws that are beneficial, not destructive; laws that are practical and effective in operation; laws that are to be obeyed, not evaded; laws that serve not the temporary purpose of special interests, but the permanent interests of all sound life insurance.

The following decision of the Missouri Supreme Court in the case of Nave vs. the Home Mutual insurance company may be cited as to the **liability** of fire insurance companies **for earthquake losses.** It is published in Bennings' "Fire Insurance Cases," page 88:

The subject insured had ceased to be such, and became a mere congerie of materials before the fire occurred, and by reason of a cause not insured against in the policy. The maxim, "Causa proxima non remota spectatur," has no application in such a case. If the fire had been the immediate cause of the destruction and loss, then the remote causes of the fire might have been immaterial. The cause of the loss was not the fire, but the fall. That a fire sprung up afterward in the rubbish and destroyed the fallen material was wholly another matter. The material was not insured. The building insured no longer existed as such, and it ceased to exist by reason of a peril not insured against.

In Wood the law on this subject is stated as follows: "If, from any cause outside of the peril insured against, as by wind, explosion, earthquake, or by any cause, the building falls in pieces, or so much of it that it ceases to be a building, and afterwards a fire breaks out and destroys the material, the loss is not under the policy."

The fourth international **congress of examining physicians for life insurance companies** will be held in the Prussian Parliament Building, at Berlin, on September 11-15, under the honorary patronage of Dr. Studt, Royal Prussian Minister of Education, Religion and Medical Affairs. Papers will be read and discussion will take place on these subjects:

Life Insurance—The early recognition of the presence of an inclination toward tuberculosis, especially pulmonary tuberculosis; obesity and its bearing on life insurance; the influence of syphilis on longevity; the vaccination clause in insurance contracts.

Accident Insurance—The general influence of accident in cases of internal disease; the acute aggravation of insanity by accident; influence of injuries on latent and apparent organic spinal diseases and mental derangements; the tests of the influence of accidents in aggravating functional neurosis. The correspondent for the United States and Canada of the fifth actuarial congress, Israel C. Pierson, 141 Broadway, New York, will receive subscriptions for the medical examiners' congress.

The Chicago courts have decided that an insurance **broker acquires a legal right to his renewals,** and can claim commissions, even though the business is placed by others. N. W. Engalitcheff, a Russian prince, well known in Chicago, placed the plate glass insurance of the Hillman department store with Wile, Loeb & Gutman, with an annual premium of $1,000 and a 30 per cent. commission. The policy expired April 3, 1906, and was renewed March 30 for twenty-three months at a premium of $1,307, Wile, Loeb & Gutman allowing the bookkeeper at Hillman's 35 per cent. and recognizing him as the broker in control of the risk. When Prince Engalitcheff found that the policy had been renewed he sued for his commission, claiming that he had placed the business with Wile, Loeb & Gutman from year to year as a broker, and that the renewals belonged to him. The court gave him a judgment for $286.80, being a commission of 30 per cent. on the net premium paid by the insured, after deducting the 35 per cent. commission to its bookkeeper.

The Hartford *Times* deprecates the sort of **pressure** which the Governor and Insurance Commissioner of California and the mayor of San Francisco are seeking to exert **on the fire insurance companies.** It says:

This sort of tactics is at once unfortunate and unfair. Most of the underwriting corporations that incurred great losses in San Francisco are striving to meet their obligations honorably, are pursuing a liberal policy in the adjustment of claims and are showing a disposition to effect settlements on a fair and just basis. The manner in which some of the affected companies have strengthened their resources in order to grapple with the enormous losses in San Francisco has displayed superb honor. Companies which are meeting the situation manfully and heroically should be exempt from any suggestion of bulldozing tactics on the part of the California authorities. Inclination of the State and city officials to harass these companies, to hold a club over their heads and to brandish veiled threats, should be promptly curbed. It merely complicates the situation without relieving it. A few companies may need to be hounded to some extent, but certainly any indiscriminate use of the Big Stick by the California authorities is ill advised. Underwriting corporations that are straining every nerve to solve a great problem in a great way have a right to resent any threats, whether express or implied.

In an intelligent editorial article disapproving of the proposed legislation at Baton Rouge **pounding the fire insurance companies,** the New Orleans *Daily States* says:

It is well to impress on both the public and the Legislature the fact that at the present time the fire insurance companies are struggling to adjust the enormous loss of $200,000,000 caused by the disaster in San Francisco. So great is this loss and so difficult is it for the companies to meet it that a majority of them have been compelled to heavily assess their stockholders. Aside from this a number of companies have been hit so hard by the San Francisco loss that they are preparing to retire from business, while a still larger number have found it necessary to curtail their operations and retire from territory in which they formerly sold insurance. This is a fact that cannot be questioned, for it is a matter of record that since

the occurrence of the San Francisco fire nine companies have withdrawn from Louisiana, although the payments of the San Francisco losses have hardly begun. It is rational to assume that in selecting those States in which fire insurance companies will decide to cease business they will be largely influenced by such considerations as restrictive laws and burdensome taxation, therefore the result of additional restrictive legislation or taxation by our law making body at this time will be the withdrawal of more companies from the State, especially those contemplating a curtailment of their operations.

A suit has been begun by Gilbert Ray Hawes, a New York lawyer notorious for his aggressiveness, **against the New York Life insurance company,** as a policyholder, for "a full and complete accounting of all the surplus moneys now in its possession or under its control and to apportion the same to the policyholders who may be entitled thereto, including this plaintiff and those similarly situated who may join herein." Mr. Hawes next asks the court to compel the company to pay to him such premiums or dividends "to which he and those represented by him are entitled, as may be determined by the said accounting, together with such amount as may be found to represent the loss and damage suffered by the illegal acts of the defendant." He also calls upon the court to adjudge the company bound to reform his policy and the policies of the others who join with him so as to make them conform to the provisions of the insurance law of the State and the provisions of the charter.

The long expected has happened with the **Ancient Order of United Workmen,** as it has year after year with other fraternals. The Supreme Lodge, at its convention which closed Monday night at Montreal, abolished the guaranty fund established three years ago, raised the rate of assessment of the members of participation in the beneficiary fund, and thirdly, decided to levy a contribution of 10 cents a month on each member for the relief of lodges that have fallen in arrears in their dues. This last step was taken because of the continually increasing number of lodges which could not meet their death claims. The new scale of rates adopted for a $1,000 beneficiary certificate begins with $1.24 at the age of eighteen, running up to $2.05 at the age of thirty-five, $3.09 at forty-six, $4.04 at fifty-two, until the ultimate limit of $9.65 for persons of seventy is reached.

A July outing, plans for which are yet in the rough, was voted as desirable Tuesday at the regular meeting of the **Life Underwriters' Association of New York,** held in the Washington Life Building. The committee appointed to arrange for the outing are T. T. Johnson, W. C. Johnson and A. G. Shepard. The resolution of the executive committee to continue the publication of *Life Insurance Notes,* the association's organ, was ratified at the meeting, and a sub-committee of that committee, consisting of Herbert N. Fell, Albert G. Shepard and M. E. Goulden, was named to take charge of the work. The following were elected members of the association: John J. Reinhard and H. H. Pennock, Equitable Life; Welton H. Flinn, Columbian National Life; Cleveland F. Pratt, Mutual Life; Herbert J. Reinmund, Phœnix Mutual Life; Hugh T. Treacy, New York Life.

The *Pacific Underwriter* issues a warning to insurance companies about the **inflammable condition** of the temporary **new San Francisco,** which is being built on the ruins of the old. It says:

The underwriters are beginning to realize the danger of conditions in the burnt district and in and around Fillmore street. One story frame buildings of barnlike size and construction are being rushed up on the sites of the destroyed buildings. Some are tinned, some sheathed with corrugated iron and lined with wood. In a few more weeks the city will approach closely an immense frame range hazard. On Fillmore street the congestion is enough to insure the K. O. work. Sprinkled among all these buildings are innumerable little restaurants and lunch counters with coal oil or gasoline stoves. Tinder boxes, but big enough under favorable conditions to start another big blaze. The windy season is here. The fire department is short of apparatus, and unfortunately and short-sightedly been reduced numerically. These are the conditions at present, and week by week the hazard will increase.

Fire insurance companies are disappointed in not experiencing the falling off in losses they had expected to follow **the San Francisco conflagration** because of greater care by property owners, the checking of crooked losses, and a better adherence to rates, says our Chicago correspondent. It had been supposed that after such a crushing loss the companies would insist on their agents getting tariff rates everywhere, but instead the reports of rate cutting, especially in Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, are increasing. The only explanation advanced in Chicago is that a number of the companies are utilizing the delay in completing San Francisco settlements by crowding their premium income in every way possible, and are willing to shade rates and take chances on the future in order to get as much cash in as possible just now.

A decision of interest to the purveyors of **public liability insurance** was handed down last week by the Massachusetts Supreme Court. The motive power of the Boston Elevated Railway Company is applied by means of an iron "shoe" gliding along the third rail, in which process particles of metal are rubbed off, and drop into the street below. The decision in question confirmed a verdict of $1,000 given in the lower court in favor of one John S. Woodall, who claimed compensation for an eye injury caused by a particle of metal from the third rail. Already another suit of similar nature has been instituted against the company, and it is intimated that there are more to come. The effect of this decision will probably be the adoption of some means to obviate the dropping of these bits of metal.

A new departure in the work of the **medical department of the Travelers** of Hartford is being tried in the West, consisting in the formation of a distinct office to be located in Chicago for passing on Western claims. To bring this about R. H. Davies, for some years one of the assistant medical examiners of the home office staff, has been transferred to Chicago, and with the title of medical examiner will pass on all claims for life and accident business, instead of referring them to the home office, as was necessary before. Mr. Davies is a young man for this prominent position, but has shown unusual ability on these lines. He left for the West on Tuesday, and will begin his new work at once. Besides the Travelers, Mr. Davies will pass on the Western business of eight other life companies.

Although **C. W. Rilling,** the Chicago life insurance agent, secured his second **judgment against the New York Life** recently for commissions on the Braun policy, on which he had claimed to have done the work, notwithstanding the policy was placed through another agent, he may have to try the case again. Judge Windes, before whom it was heard, decided that Rilling could collect under the common counts, basing his ruling upon a contractor's case decided by him while he was chief justice of the Appellate Court recently, involving much the same points. Since the Rilling decision was rendered the Supreme Court of Illinois has handed down a decision reversing the case upon which Judge Windes relied, and it is now probable that the Rilling case will have to be heard over again.

The agents of the Penn Mutual Life gathered in convention at Atlantic City on Tuesday officially ignored the Arm-

strong laws, although the bill was discussed at some length. Action was deferred until after the meeting this fall of the insurance commissioners at Washington. President Harry F. West, Agency Manager Lippincott and Actuary A. C. Barker, of the Penn Mutual, were among the guests of the association. The following officers were elected for the opening year: President, Colonel Frank Marcoe, of Baltimore; first vice president, J. A. Golden, of New York; second vice president, William M. Bunting, of Boston; secretary, James C. Biggert, of Pittsburgh; assistant secretary, J. W. Iredell, of Cincinnati; treasurer, J. E. Durham, of Philadelphia.

A banquet tendered to Charles W. Scovel, president of the National Association of Life Underwriters **at Montreal,** Canada, on Saturday evening last was a most successful affair. The Montreal association, by its affiliation recently with the National Association, has already been instrumental in the formation of eleven associations in Canada. The chair was occupied by A. H. Vipond, president of the Montreal association, and addresses were delivered also by T. G. McConkey, of Toronto, honorary president of the Dominion Association of Life Underwriters; G. H. Allen, president of the Dominion Association; Sargent P. Stearns, G. H. Simpson, W. N. Shaw, B. Hal Browne, David Burke and Theodore J. Parks, of Montreal, and C. C. Knight, of Sherbrooke.

The Elkhart County Trust Company of Elkhart, Ind., filed in court on Wednesday charges against the **American Mutual Life insurance company** of Elkhart and its officers, supplemental to charges which led several days ago to the appointment of a receiver for the company. The deefndants named are Samuel E. Barney, treasurer and manager of the company; William M. Barney, president; Samuel Stewart, secretary; F. E. Barney, a director of the company; Richard C. Barney and his wife and Hugh C. Barney. A conspiracy to defraud is charged against Samuel E. Barney, Samuel Stewart, W. M. and F. E. Barney. Restraining orders to prevent the sale of any property by the defendants are asked. Judgment is demanded for $150,000.

The restitution suits for actuarial fees, amounting to $200,000, against former Insurance Commissioners Luper, Lambert and Durham and Actuaries Erb and Foster, of Pennsylvania, in the Dauphin County Court of Pennsylvania, has aroused considerable interest this week. The matter is being fought out on purely technical grounds, and involves the interpretation of the law of 1873 relating to the fees of actuaries. Attorney General Carson represented the State, and a host of prominent members of the bar the defendants. The Attorney General claimed that the actuarial fees of the Insurance Department belonged to the State, as did those of every other department. The court took the papers and reserved decision.

The London *Insurance Journal* also **disapproves of the movement** to turn the British policyholder of the Mutual Life over to the North British and Mercantile. It says:

There really has been shown no sufficient reason why its British policyholders should abandon the New York Mutual. Such a step could only result in more or less of loss to those thus surrendering their interests in it, while it certainly could not entail aught but gain for the company thus relieved of some share of its obligations. Changing companies is a losing game for the insured, particularly after paying premiums for several years. The whole practice of "policy twisting" which has been attempted on so large a scale during the past few weeks is, in our judgment, wholly regrettable, as being injurious to the best interests of both policyholders and shareholders. We are afraid it will be long before the public as a whole regains its former confidence in the integrity and stability of insurance institutions generally.

It is evident that the **Boston Board of Fire Underwriters** is anxious to have the long pending district commission question, on which the companies have been holding off for the greater part of the year, brought to a settlement, and for this reason is holding off from adding the water fronts of East Boston, South Boston, Charlestown and part of Roxbury to the territory of Boston proper for rating and commission purposes. At last Tuesday's meeting of the board, therefore, the matter was again postponed. A proposition to take off the 15 per cent. advance from fireproof and sprinklered risks was voted down.

A **standard form of plate glass policy** is not among the points of agreement subscribed to by the Plate Glass Underwriters' Association of New York. A committee composed of President Winslow, of the Metropolitan Casualty, President White of the New York Plate Glass, and President Woods of the Lloyds Plate Glass, so decided in a conference held Friday last with President Armstrong of the Casualty Company of America. The latter, while believing in the compact provisions as regards rates and commissions, did not think the standard form provisions advisable just now.

The **Glens Falls insurance company** makes the following statement regarding its San Francisco conflagration adjustments:

Our board of directors in special session refuse to have the Glens Falls insurance company stand for any flat percentage reduction applying to all San Francisco claims. While it will not pay loss for which it is not liable, and deprecating the manifest non-recognition by policyholders of loss outside of fire insurance indemnity, it is directed that this company's San Francisco adjustments proceed as they have since May 1 by dealing with the liability aspects of individual claims, each on its merits.

One Western insurance agent, instead of complaining of hard times, got busy a few days ago and landed an Indian prince for a $10,000 twenty year endowment policy in the Capitol Life of Colorado. The new policyholder is no less a person than **H. H. Sapajirao Gaekwar, Maharajah of Baroda, India,** while the enterprising agent who did the trick was W. H. Milburn, of Denver. The Maharajah will pay $511 in premiums a year. The medical examination showed the potentate to be a first class risk.

Several months ago **A. B. Williams,** the fire insurance agent at Parsons, Kan., sent out a circular charging the Farmers' Alliance Insurance Company with discriminating in rates and with unfair treatment of policyholders. He was **sued for damages** and was found guilty. The Supreme Court of Kansas has now reversed the decision and sent the case back for trial on the ground that the court allowed the prosecution to introduce parts of the offending circular and exclude other parts.

The address at the annual meeting of the **New Hampshire Fire Underwriters' Association,** held at Goff's Falls, N. H., on Friday of last week, was delivered by Secretary Henry H. Putnam of the National Association. Officers were elected as follows: Louis C. Merrill, of Concord, president; vice presidents, A. B. Palmer, of Keene; B. H. Corning, of Littleton, and Frederick E. Small, of Rochester; Robert R. Chase of Manchester, secretary and treasurer.

The **Atlanta-Birmingham insurance company** has reinsured all its outstanding business in the Prudential Fire of Tazewell, Va., a new company, which will remove its head-office to Atlanta at once. The Atlanta-Birmingham will continue in business, and both companies will be operated under the

same management. The capital and surplus of the Prudential will be increased to $700,000, of which a large amount has been subscribed and paid in.

A meeting of policyholders of the Mutual Life of New York, called by "Reformer" J. B. Ryckman at St. Louis, **mustered sixteen persons**, three being there from curiosity. Ryckman called a second meeting and the attendance was still smaller, says the St. Louis *Insurance Leader*. This was the result of two weeks' hard work "arousing the people." Ryckman is supposed to be working for the Lawson-Untermyer syndicate.

The following are the members of the **Virginia Committee of the South Eastern Tariff Association** appointed by President Milton Dargan: C. E. Bickford, chairman; D. J. Carr, Burton D. D. Echert, Ernest B. Dewey, Charles R. Dey, Geo. B Jennings, J. M. Leake, Robert Lecky, Jr., U. O. Michels and J. N. Waller. Mr. Bickford has withdrawn his resignation as Virginia member of the executive committee of the association.

There is a lively contest for the **Mississippi insurance commissionership**, the candidates so far announced being State Auditor T. M. Henry, State Treasurer W. J. Miller, Robert E. Alexander, of Hinds County; P. S. George, of Le Flore, and J. E. Spencer, of Claiborne. The name of the present commissioner, Mr. Cole, does not appear in this list, but we have seen no notice in the local newspapers that he is not also a candidate.

Beginning Monday, July 9, the **New Jersey Senate Insurance Investigating Committee** will hold meetings in the Senate Chamber at Trenton. The committee will call upon David Parks Fackler of New York, the actuary employed by the insurance department; on the State banking commissioner, David O. Watkins, and the presidents of several New Jersey insurance companies, to give testimony.

The annual meeting of the **Illinois Field Club** was held at Lake Geneva June 19 and 20. G. W. Stuck, of Decatur, special agent of the American and Security, was elected president; M. L. C. Funkhouser, of the Farmers and Merchants, vice president. C. G. Meeker declined re-election as secretary, and Miss L. B. Herpich, who has been assistant secretary, was elected to succeed him.

The stockholders of the State Agency Company of Indianapolis, who went into the courts and got an injunction preventing the payment of $250,000 to O. L. Van Laningham for his contract with the **State Life of Indiana,** have urged a settlement outside of court, and the suit for a receiver has been dismissed. The minority stockholders expect to secure recognition on the board of directors.

The vacancy caused by the death of Pendennis White, president of the **Lumber Insurance Company of New York,** was filled last week by the appointment of G. A. Mitchell as Mr. White's successor. The same interests control the new Adirondack Fire insurance company, which is now regularly entered in six States and writes principally lumber and woodworking risks.

Indiana statistics for the past ten years show a steady **increase in losses by lightning,** 80 per cent. of the losses being on farm and country property. Of this 80 per cent., 60 per cent. was on barns and live stock in open fields. The farmers' mutuals say that lightning losses on barns and live stock constitute 90 per cent. of their total losses.

On Wednesday last the Governor of Massachusetts signed the bill providing for the appointment of a **deputy chief of the boiler inspection department** of the district police. The bill authorizing the formation of companies to insure against damage caused by the breaking or explosion of flywheels has also become a law.

The annual meeting of the **Wisconsin Field Club** was held at Green Lake, Wis., on Tuesday. W. E. Golden, of the Atlas, was elected president, and S. Herdegen vice president. The final session was held on a steamer journeying down the Fox River to Oshkosh, where a reception was held in the evening.

A new motor chemical has been received by the Boston Fire Department, which will be put to use in the suburbs on Independence Day and the night before. The Brighton and Dorchester districts are also to be given the use of an extra chemical engine, each to meet the increased hazard of that day.

The directors of the **United Firemen's insurance company** of Philadelphia have unanimously adopted resolutions for the increase of the capital stock of the company from $300,000 to $400,000, the new stock to be issued at 200 per cent., which will add $100,000 to capital and $100,000 to surplus.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the **Assurance Company of America** of New York, held Thursday, the capital was reduced from $400,000 to $200,000. An increase in the capital will be dealt with later by the directors. The company has withdrawn from the Pacific Coast.

A **new monthly publication,** the *Journal of Fire*, which proposes to devote itself to "the fire problem," looks well and has good material in its columns. It is published by the Fire Bureau at 25 West Forty-second street, New York, and is edited by Peter Joseph McKeon.

It is emphatically denied by President Bernard Cremer of the **German Fire of Peoria** that the company has retired from anywhere else than California. He says that the company is not settling earthquake losses, but is settling fire losses at the rate of twenty a day.

At the fifty-ninth annual meeting of the **Institute of Actuaries**, held June 11, the membership was reported at 922, and Frank Bertrand Wyatt was elected president and Ernest Woods, Frederick Schooling, Thomas Gans Ackland and George Todd vice presidents.

The **Northwestern Mutual Life** reports no decrease in its business as a result of the recent investigation by the Wisconsin legislative committee. The new business for the first five months of 1906 shows an increase of $6,038,730 over the same period last year.

The United Surety Company, which has been writing bonding and burglary insurance, is preparing to add other lines

soon. George U. Marvin, formerly an Ohio special agent, has been appointed superintendent of agencies in the Western department.

The Mutual Life of New York has **disposed of 1,000 shares of stock** in the Bank of America which it can no longer hold according to the provisions of the Armstrong law. The purchasers are understood to have been large stockholders of the bank.

It was expected in Cincinnati this week that at the next meeting of the directors of the **Union Central Life insuraance company,** Jesse Clark, long the treasurer of the company, would be elected president to succeed the late John M. Pattison.

The **removal of the headquarters** of *Insurance* from 203 Broadway to 81 and 83 Fulton street should have been mentioned before. May our esteemed and always able contemporary continue to wax and grow fat in its new home.

The Royal has resigned from the recently organized **Surplus Line Association,** having decided that under existing conditions it does not care for any more of that class of business than is given it through its regular channels.

The annual meeting of the **Fire Underwriters' Association of the Northwest** for 1905 was held two weeks later than the usual date. This year the meeting will be held October 3 and 4, midway between the two dates.

The **Ohio Field Club and the Ohio League** will hold a joint meeting at Cedar Point, Ohio, July 18. The Ohio Fire Prevention Association will inspect Sandusky, nearby, the day before the meeting.

It is reported that the **Citizens insurance company** of St. Louis, which is controlled by the Hartford Fire, has cancelled risks aggregating some $500,000 in the conflagration district of Boston.

With $100,000 capital, the **Occidental Life of Albuquerque, N. Mex.,** is being organized by J. H. O'Reilly. The company will operate on the legal reserve basis in New Mexico and Arizona.

An **examination of the Kansas Insurance Department** will be made under the direction of J. C. Gafford, State accountant. This is no reflection on Superintendent Luling.

The American of Newark has begun writing in the upper peninsula of Michigan, with E. O. Basse, State agent for Wisconsin, in charge of the territory.

The Illinois Health and Accident Association of Peoria has changed its headquarters to Chicago and its name to the Bankers' Union.

The **Niagara Fire of New York** has been authorized by Insurance Commissioner Kelsey to increase its capital from $250,000 to $750,000.

The **American Relief Association of Bay City, Mich.,** has been merged with the Federal Casualty Company of Detroit.

The **Commercial Life insurance company** has been incorporated at Indianapolis, Ind.

Personal.

AGENCY APPOINTMENTS.

Fidelity Mutual Life of Philadelphia: Charles W. Potter, late of New York Life, manager at Columbus, Ohio.

Fire Association of Philadelphia: T. J. Trout, of Altoona, Pa., special agent.

New Jersey Plate Glass: Duer & Gillespie, managers for Greater New York.

Old Colony of Boston: Robert T. Sissons & Co., Lynn, Mass.; C. H. Odell, Salem, Mass.; A. E. Mack, Lawrence, Mass.; J. R. Tallman, Taunton, Mass.

Shawnee Fire of Topeka, Kan.: Arthur G. Langham, of Louisville, general agent for Kentucky; Charles D. Eaton, St. Louis, Mo., transferred from Campbell, Schenck & Co.

Mr. John E. Leffingwell, who was president of the old Farragut Fire of New York for thirty years, until its retirement several years ago, died Wednesday last, aged eighty-five years. Mr. Leffingwell was particularly well known among the older New York underwriters. He came as a boy from Colchester, Conn., and entered the insurance business, being an officer of the old Fulton insurance company when it retired after the Chicago fire. He was an organizer of the Farragut Fire.

Mr. Vince T. Sanford, of Crawfordsville, Ga., has announced his candidacy for Comptroller General and ex-officio Insurance Commissioner of Georgia, in opposition to Col. William A. Wright, the present incumbent. There is no good reason why the latter, who has been supervising insurance in Georgia with entire acceptability to the public and the insurers the past twenty-six years, should be displaced.

Mr. J. C. Harvey, formerly vice president of the National Life of the U. S. A., has been appointed superintendent of agencies and actuary of the German Mutual Life of St. Louis. The company, though fifty years old, has restricted its business almost entirely to St. Louis, and has never gone outside of the State of Missouri. It now plans a gradual extension of its operations.

Mr. Charles H. Hoxie, special agent for the Dutchess and Teutonia for New England, and formerly an inspector for the New England Insurance Exchange, has been appointed New England special agent for the Security of New Haven, with headquarters at Boston. He succeeds Mr. James W. Hemingway, who resigned to enter the local agency business in New Haven.

Mr. John Welsh Dulles, president and general manager of the Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania, has resigned, and William Muir, of Philadelphia, has been chosen president in his place. The company will shortly remove to the Union insurance company building, and both companies will be conducted under the same official staff and management.

Mr. Ira A. Foy, a South Haven, Kan., life underwriter who was taking the Pasteur treatment at Chicago for an injury caused by the bite of a pet dog, killed himself in the Home Life Building there on Friday last. He left a note saying that fear of contracting hydrophobia drove him to take his life.

Mr. Frank B. Mead, a recent graduate of the actuarial department of the University of Michigan, has been appointed assistant actuary of the Minnesota Mutual at St. Paul. Mr. Mead has had practical experience in the actuarial department of the Fidelity Mutual.

President George Edward Ide, of the Home Life insurance company, who is a graduate of the class of 1881 of Yale University, was the recipient of the honorary degree of Master of Arts from his *alma mater* at the commencement of the university this week.

Mr. W. H. Sale, traveling auditor of the Pacific Mutual Life of San Francisco, is at the office of the company in New York this week paying his annual visit of inspection. He will be here several days before returning to his Chicago headquarters.

Mr. Howard C. Boone, former agency director for the New York Life at Kansas City, has been appointed manager for the Capitol Life of Denver, covering Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Indian Territory, with headquarters at Kansas City.

Mr. Stanford White, the architect, who was assassinated on Monday night by Thaw, carried, it is reported, over $500,000 in life insurance, payable to his wife. None of his policies, so far as can be ascertained, were taken out recently.

Mr. Sydney Cornwall, for several years connected with the home office of the Factory Insurance Association of Hartford, has been transferred to Atlanta, Ga., where as special agent for the State he will represent his company in the field.

General Manager E. Roger Owen, of the Commercial Union, and Mr. O. Morgan Owen, joint assistant secretary of the Alliance Assurance Company, have sailed from London, and expect to reach San Francisco about July 15.

Mr. W. S. Diggs has resigned as general agent of the New England Mutual Life at Pittsburgh to become manager for the American Surety Company at Cincinnati, covering southern Ohio, eastern Kentucky and West Virginia.

Col. William S. Moore, general agent of the New York Life at Detroit, Mich., for twenty years, died June 22, after a six months' illness, aged sixty-seven years. He is said to have written $5,000,000 worth of insurance.

Mr. Albert J. Thornton, general manager at Montgomery, Ala., for the Preferred Accident of New York, died June 18 at his home there, aged seventy-seven years. He had been with the Preferred since 1894.

Mr. James M. Ballantine, assistant secretary of the Provident Savings Life of New York, who has been critically ill as a result of blood poisoning caused by an ulcerated tooth, is now on the high road to recovery.

Hon. Len K. Hart is a candidate for Hon. Reau E. Folk's place as State Treasurer and Insurance Commissioner of Tennessee, and is reported to be pressing the present incumbent hard.

Messrs. Daniel Woodcock & Co., of 19 Liberty street, New York, have been appointed general agents of the Commercial Fire insurance company of Houston, Tex., for the Eastern States except Massachusetts, Middle

States except New Jersey, and the States of Ohio and Indiana. This company is regularly entered in and licensed by the State of New Jersey.

Mr. Norris H. Bokum, son of R. D. Bokum, Illinois State agent of the Mutual Benefit Life, graduated recently from Princeton, and has already started out with a rate book, under his father.

Mr. Robert H. McCurdy, former general manager of the Mutual Life Insurance company, took a steamer for Europe on Thursday. It is supposed that he will join his father in France.

Mr. A. A. Hobbs, Cook County, Ill., special agent of the German-American, has resigned to go into the real estate and insurance brokerage business in Chicago.

Mr. William G. Harrison, Pacific Coast manager at San Francisco of the Thames and Mersey Marine, has resigned to operate in real estate there.

Insurance Superintendent Vorys will be reappointed by the new Governor of Ohio, although he was also favored by the late Governor.

Mr. William J. Culligan, a leading insurance man of St. Joseph, Mo., died there June 17, aged thirty-six years.

President Paul Morton of the Equitable Life sailed for Europe on Thursday last.

Official Reports.

Connecticut Life Insurance Report.

Commissioner Upson this week issued the forty-first annual report of his department covering life and casualty insurance. Under the caption of "General Remarks" he says:

The foregoing statistical tables give in condensed form the general results of the life insurance business transacted in the State during the past year. The table of business in Connecticut, pages xv and xvi, shows a very unusual condition of affairs. Instead of an increase of business in this State during the past year there has been a marked decrease in comparison with the preceding year. Doubtless this falling off is the result of the astonishing revelations made in the course of the investigation of the life insurance companies of New York by the committee appointed by the Legislature of that State.

Commenting on the new insurance law enacted by the New York Legislature Commissioner Upson says:

The event of paramount importance for the business of life insurance during the year has been the enactment by the State of New York of amendments and additions to her insurance law, thereby forming a code more drastic in its requirements than any similar body of law heretofore enacted either in this country or abroad. This new law must necessarily be experimental in its nature. It should be borne in mind that it was drafted, not with the abstract thought of producing a model code, but with the concrete idea of promptly and decisively putting a stop to the particular extravagances, misrepresentations and abuses of power disclosed by the New York legislative investigation. It may, therefore, be regarded as a remedy for diseased conditions rather than a preservative of healthy ones, and it is to be hoped that some of its more paternal requirements may, in due time, be deemed no longer necessary.

Connecticut companies have, I believe, neither the inclination nor the opportunity to indulge in the practices which have been the main cause of public censure in the case of the great New York corporations. This new law, however, vitally affects Connecticut interests, in that many of its provisions are made applicable to companies of other States doing business in New York.

Connecticut companies have too much at stake to permit them to withdraw from so wide a field without severe loss, and they are preparing in one way or another to qualify under the rules laid down by the new statutes.

I have requested the department actuary to make a summary of the provisions of the new laws of New York relating to life insurance companies in order that it may be seen at a glance what conditions the companies of Connecticut will have to meet if they continue to do business in that State.

The affairs of the Connecticut Life of Waterbury have been wound up by the New Haven Trust Company, the receiver, and that concern stands ready for an order of court to distribute 55.83 per cent. on $50,307.06 of mortuary and policyholders' claims, $172.05 in full of a preferred claim and 16.34 per cent. on the balance of $22,220.67 mortuary and policyholders' claims; in all, $94,083.43. Of the National Life of this city he says that it had $87,742.60 of assets when it went into a receiver's hands seven years ago, and the expenses have so far been $49,627.46. Actuary J. H. Woodward gives in the report a summary of the new laws of New York.

Insurance Legislation.

Complete copies of all important bills in the legislatures affecting insurance are on file in the office of THE WEEKLY UNDERWRITER.

Louisiana.

BATON ROUGE, La., June 23.—A bill has been introduced by Mr. Reilly in the Senate requiring foreign fire, marine and inland insurance companies to deposit $25,000 with the State Treasurer of this State as a condition precedent to doing business in this State.

The committee substitute for Senator Cordell's bill regarding the situs of debts for purposes of taxation has finally passed the Senate. The bill was drawn in the interest of insurance companies, and was reported after a hard fight.

BATON ROUGE, La., June 25.—Under a suspension of the rules the House has adopted a resolution directing an immediate investigation into the operations of fire insurance companies in the State. The Judiciary Committee will make the investigation. Chairman Marks, of this committee, stated on the floor that his committee had direct and positive evidence that the fire insurance companies are violating the State anti-trust law.

Mr. Guilbeau's bill, House 240, making it a misdemeanor to use estimates misrepresenting the terms of policies, has passed the House, as has his bill No. 241, prohibiting certain provisions in life insurance policies.

The following Guilbeau bills, modeled on the New York Armstrong law, which have already passed the House, have now passed the Senate: House No. 83, requiring life policies to contain the entire contract; House No. 84, forbidding forfeiture of a life policy without notice; House No. 85, regulating the business of fraternals.

Mr. Dale's bill, House No. 115, relative to the taxation of the property of life insurance companies, has passed both Houses. It places domestic life insurance companies on an equality with foreign companies in the matter of taxation.

A bill of Mr. Stroudback's, House 255, amending the fire marshal law of 1904, has passed the House.

The Louisiana Fire Prevention Bureau has sent the following letter to Lieutenant Governor Sanders:

We solicit a full and thorough investigation of the Louisiana Fire Prevention Bureau as to its every detail of operation, and we will render all assistance possible to any investigating committee you may appoint. The bureau has absolutely nothing to conceal.

SOL. BLOODWORTH, Secretary.
JAS. S. ROSS, Vice President,
Louisiana Fire Prevention Bureau.

Georgia.

The adjourned session of the Georgia Legislature began Wednesday morning. No insurance bills have yet been introduced.

Miscellany.

Looking Facts in the Face.

The *Insurance Field,* one of whose editors is in San Francisco watching the situation, has the following lucid editorial article on the attitude of the companies involved in the conflagration losses there:

San Francisco claimants are entitled to sympathy in the confusion and delay that have hung up the adjustments of their

conflagration losses. There must accompany this feeling, however, one of pity for the absurd lengths to which they are being carried in despair by the advice of foolish lawyers and sensational newspapers. Even the *Call*, a paper that is usually fair, insists that there can be enforced the California State law which declares that all stockholders of corporations entering the State are liable personally on their stock in the same degree as the stockholders of California corporations. Policyholders are being advised to that effect by lawyers. The result is that compromises are being declined by claimants unconditionally. It is needless to say that stockholders are liable only under the laws of the States and the charters of their organization, and that no law of California or any other country can affect them. Notwithstanding this, thousands of stockholders are voluntarily making good their company loss, but there are some companies that may not be able to do this.

The situation at San Francisco is this: That, in the absence of means of proof, claimants are insisting that every policy on every missing article insured shall be considered a valued policy, good for its face. To many companies overwhelmed with losses, both in numbers and amount, no such proposition can be acceptable. They have just as much of a disaster to face as the claimants, and are entitled to make just as firm a fight for legal protection as the claimants are. There are four classes of companies in evidence in the situation.

First, those having comparatively little at risk and that can pay their losses readily. They are naturally anxious and ready to pay up and to get the prestige that will of course follow their promptness. These companies are fortunate and to be envied. They may afford to overpay claimants for the long and splendid benefits to accrue.

Second, that class of companies able and certain to pay, yet having to assess their stockholders more or less heavily to do so and maintain their strength unimpaired. They, too, are anxious and willing to pay, but not to overpay for prestige, and are looking to the performance of their policy contracts under the strict rule of law, protecting themselves in their rights.

Third, there are companies trying hard to pay and that may succeed in paying. Their only chance lies in gaining time and in the strictest construction of their contracts under the law. It would be safer for the claimants to compromise with such companies than to force them into bankruptcy with its inevitable loss in time and cost.

Fourth, there are companies bankrupt beyond doubt by the losses, and yet that are holding out desperately in the hope that "something may turn up." They are taking long chances on some compromise in despair which may enable them to drag along.

These classes will be defined in a few weeks, and by that time it will also be apparent to claimants that if companies are to disregard their own rights of proof and adjustment it must be in consideration of a compromise which will put all rights upon an equitable footing for protection. There are estimated to be $296,000,000 of losses awaiting payments in San Francisco by 123 companies. For the past fifteen years an average of 139 companies reporting to the National Board of Fire Underwriters have paid an average aggregate of $82,000,000 of fire loss per year. Taking the normal losses accruing this year at $95,000,000 and adding them to the estimated conflagration loss would make about $390,000,000 in losses to be paid in one year, or about four average yearly aggregate losses. It seems scarcely credible that there are any such insurance losses in San Francisco as the enormous sum estimated. If there are a great deal of it cannot be paid, and a large amount of it must be compromised. The sooner lawyers and newspapers sensibly advise claimants that their absurd extraterritorial liability laws cannot be enforced the better it will be.

The San Francisco Situation.

A meeting of business men was held at Calvary Presbyterian Church, San Francisco, on Monday afternoon, and an organization was formed, to be known as the Policyholders' Protective League. The organizations behind the movement are the Merchants' Association, Chamber of Commerce, the San Francisco Board of Trade, Manufacturers' and Producers' Association and the Merchants' Exchange. The purpose of the organization is "to enforce fair treatment from all insurance companies." Col. H. Weinstock, who presided over the meeting, was elected member at large.

A resolution providing for the preparation of a standard form of policy that must be adopted by all fire insurance companies doing business in California, to be submitted to the California Legislature at its next session, was laid over. Colonel Weinstock is making efforts to organize an executive committee of eleven representative men to carry on the proceedings of the association.

The following insurance companies did not comply with Insurance Commissioner Wolf's demand that they either sign stipulations extending the time for filing proofs of loss to August 18 or furnish the California Commissioner with their lists of policyholders, and have rendered themselves liable to exclusion from California. Some of those named have already left that State: Agricultural, American of Boston, American of Philadelphia, Concordia, Delaware of Philadelphia, Dutchess, Eagle, Germania, Globe and Rutgers, Girard, New York of New York, Northwestern Fire and Marine, National Union, North German of New York, Spring Garden, Security of Baltimore, Traders, Westchester and Western Underwriters.

Commissioner Wolf made this statement about his position: "I cannot state what action I will take until I am properly advised by the prosecuting officer of the State. Assistant Attorney General Sturtevant, who has my department under his supervision, is at present in San José on business. As soon as he returns I shall consult with him, and then announce my plan of campaign against those insurance companies which appear to be only too desirous of an excuse for withdrawing from the State."

Mr. C. F. Mullins, manager of the Pacific Coast branch of the Commercial Union, has published an advertisement in the San Francisco papers, saying: "I am in receipt of a cable from the home offices of the above named companies to the effect that the directors of said companies are legally advised that if claims for which said companies are not liable are paid said directors will incur liability of a serious character. All these companies have the earthquake clause in their policies, and have heretofore neither admitted nor denied liability, pending the receipt of advices from the home offices. These advices are construed as meaning that the companies will deny liabilities."

The North German Fire insurance company of Hamburg, Germany, has decided to withdraw from the Pacific Coast. Its agent, Walter Speyer, has resigned after twenty-six years' service with the company. The company will not pay losses until it is informed by its reinsuring companies what legal stand they will take regarding the earthquake clause, which is included in all North German policies.

The Williamsburgh City Fire has declared its refusal to pay losses on earthquake clause policies, and the following letter has been sent to claimants:

Referring to claim made for loss under policy, we respectfully return the proof for the reason that the loss was due to a cause not covered by our policy of insurance, and we therefore cannot recognize any liability under our contract with the assured.

(Signed) H. W. Colson, Adjuster.

A San Francisco special to the *Journal of Commerce* says:

The representatives of the Williamsburgh City state they are sending back the proofs of loss so as to avoid the appearance of having once accepted them, thus maintaining their legal position. They expect to be sued, and have made preparations to defend their position before the courts. The significance of this move does not rest with the fact that it jeopardizes $250,000 of insurance, but that it becomes a guiding policy for the other companies that carry this same earthquake clause in their policies, which total about $25,000,000. These companies, which can save this amount if the courts sustain the Williamsburgh, are: Rhine and Moselle, New Hampshire, Alliance of London, Palatine, Protector Underwriters, Williamsburgh City, Phœnix of Hartford, Commercial Union of London, Commercial Union of New York, Norwich Union, Indemnity of New York, German Alliance, National Union, Providence-Washington, North German of Hamburg and German American.

The Scottish Union and National has resigned from the Underwriters' Adjusting Bureau, and will make settlements independently.

Rudolph Herold has retired from the Pacific Coast manage-

ment of the Hamburg-Bremen Fire. On Thursday he turned in his resignation as general agent to Manager H. C. Buchenberger, of New York, and it was accepted. He claims to be dissatisfied with the course of the company.

Suits against several companies have been begun by policyholders. Foreman Brannan, of the grand jury at present in session at San Francisco, has made the following announcement: "The grand jury will take up the insurance matter if it can be brought to its attention that any company is acting in an illegal manner. If any policyholder has proof of this and will present it his accusations will be thoroughly investigated."

Judge Nichols, president of the National of Hartford, was in Chicago Monday on his way home from the Pacific Coast. He reported conditions there as still seriously unsettled, both as between the companies and with the insured public. He did not look for any special developments until along in August, when the sixty days from the filing of proofs of loss would begin to expire. In the meantime it was possible that the companies would be able to get together on a plan of settling losses and eliminating the earthquake damage, on which they could all agree.

Some of the Schedules and Forms for the Life Blank Submitted to the Committee on Blanks.

By Miles M. Dawson.

.....Name of Company.

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1905.

	Totals.	Profit.	Loss.
1. Loading, first year premiums.....			
Net expected death losses in the year 1905, in respect of policies issued in that year, $——.....			
Less net actual death losses in that year, in respect of such policies, $——			
Total margins on first year premiums, 1905.....			
Less expenses (as per schedule) first year			
2. Loading, renewal premiums paid during 1905.....			
Less all other expenses except taxes, repairs and investment expenses...			
3. Net expected death losses in 1905 other than in respect of policies issued in that year.....			
Less net actual death losses in that year other than in respect of such policies			
4. Net expected annuity claims maturing in 1905.....			
Less net actual annuity claims in 1905			
5. Interest, dividends and rents received during 1905.....			
Less taxes, repairs and investment expenses for 1905, $——.....			
Less credited to special funds in 1905, $——.....			
Less required to make good the reserve in 1905, $——.....			
6. Profits from sales or maturity (as per schedule)			
Less losses from sales or maturity (as per schedule).....			
7. Increase of market values (as per schedule)			
Less decrease of market values (as per schedule).....			
8. Reserves, released by surrender and lapse			
Less surrender values allowed.....			
9. All other profits (as per schedule)....			
All other losses (as per schedule)...			
Total profits and losses.....			
Net profit or loss.....			

SCHEDULES—EACH IN DETAIL.

1. Expenses, first year of insurance, to include—
   All commissions upon the premiums for the first year of insurance;
   All bonuses, prizes, awards and allowances to agents;
   All advances to agents;
   All medical examination fees and inspections;
   All other expenses (if any) of the new business for 1905.
2. Profits from sales or maturity.
3. Losses from sales or maturity.
4. Increase of market values.
5. Decrease of market values.
6. Sundry profits and losses, particularizing item 9 above.

GAIN AND LOSS EXHIBIT.

By Auditor B. F. Carroll, of Iowa.

1905.

CREDITS.

1. Aggregate loading on first year's premiums.....		$
Aggregate loading on renewal premiums.....		
2. Interest, dividends and rents.....		
3. Gains in market values—		
By sale of securities.....		
By changes in values.....		
4. Expected mortality on net amount at risk—		
Within first year of insurance.....		
In years of insurance after the first.....		
5. Expected payments on annuities (net).....		
6. Reserves released upon surrender and lapse.....		
Net loss for the year.....		$
Total		$

DEBITS.

7. Expenses—		
Investment (being —— per cent. upon mean assets)...		$
Acquisition (being entire cost of new business).....		
Renewal (being entire cost of collections).....		
Management (being all other expenses).....		
8. Interest—		
To make good the reserves.....		
To improve accumulated surplus.....		
9. Net death losses—		
Within first year of insurance.....		
In years of insurance after the first.....		
10. Net annuity payments (less reserves released).....		
11. Allowed upon surrender and lapse—		
In cash.....		
Net value of extended and paid up insurance.....		
12. Losses in market values—		
By sale of securities.....		
By changes in values.....		
Net surplus earned during year.....		$
Total		$

VERIFICATION AND DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS.

Divisible surplus, December 31, 1904.....		$
Net surplus earned during the year.....		$
Total		$
Dividends—		
Paid policyholders.....	$	
Applied for benefit of policyholders...		
Paid stockholders.....		$
Surplus appropriated—		
Added to accumulated surplus.....	$	
Added to reserves.....		
Otherwise appropriated.....		$
Net loss on the year's business.....		
Net divisible surplus, December 31, 1905.....		$
Total		$

INSTRUCTIONS.

GAIN AND LOSS EXHIBIT.

Item 1. The actual loading over the net premiums by the mortality and interest standards used in valuation is desired. First year's premiums include deferred and uncollected first year's premiums received during the year upon policies issued in the previous year.

Item 4. The expected mortality for the first year of insurance must be computed; the expected mortality for years of insurance after the first may be obtained by filling in the other items of the exhibit accurately and entering the sum required to balance as the amount.

Item 5. Must be computed, deducting the reserves expected to be released by death.

Item 6. Matured endowments are not to be entered here.

Item 7. The acquisition expense should be made up from the following items, viz.: See accompanying sheet.
The renewal expense, thus, viz.: See accompanying sheet.

Item 8. The interest to make good the reserves may be computed as follows:
To reserve at beginning of year, add the net premiums accruing during the year less the reserves released upon surrender, lapse and death. Deduct this from the reserve at the end of the year, maturity values due and death losses during the year. The interest to improve the accumulated surplus may be found by improving the accumulated surplus fund at the beginning of the year, at the rate actually employed by the company.

Item 9. Same condition as to year of insurance as in item 1 and item 4. "Net death losses" means less reserves released.

Item 11. Values of extended and paid up insurance must be their net worth by valuation standards.
Neither matured endowments nor surplus allowed is to be included.

Expenses for new business include all disbursements under the following heads:

Commissions upon premiums for the first year of insurance and upon single premiums and annuities, including bonuses to agents.
Advance to agents.
Salaries and allowances to agents.

HOME OFFICE.

Salaries, expenses and traveling expenses of agency department.
Advertising.

(*Continued on page* 505.)

SCHEDULE OF DEFERRED DIVIDENDS PAID OR PROVISIONALLY ACCUMULATED IN 19— AND ANNUAL PREMIUMS PER $1,000,000 OF INSURANCE.

By Commissioner Arthur I. Vorys, of Ohio.

Kind of Policy.	Age at Issue.	Number of Years Policy Has Been in Force.															
		1		2		3		4		5		10		15		20	
		Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.
Whole life.....																	
20 year life.....																	
15 year life.....																	
10 year life.....																	
10 year endowment....	25																
15 year endowment....																	
20 year endowment....																	
25 year endowment....																	
Etc.																	
Whole life.....																	
20 year life.....																	
15 year life.....																	
10 year life.....																	
10 year endowment.....	35																
15 year endowment.....																	
20 year endowment.....																	
25 year enodwment.....																	
Etc.																	
Whole life.....																	
20 year life.....																	
15 year life.....																	
10 year life.....																	
10 year endowment.....	45																
15 year endowment.....																	
20 year endowment.....																	
25 year endowment.....																	
Etc.																	
Whole life.....																	
20 year life.....																	
15 year life.....																	
10 year life.....																	
10 year endowment.....	55																
15 year endowment.....																	
20 year endowment.....																	
25 year endowment.....																	
Etc.																	

NOTE.—Whether the company makes a provisional distribution or not, it must compute and enter what dividend would be payable, were the fund apportioned among all the policyholders this year.

Provisional dividends should be entered in black ink and paid dividends in red ink.

Explanations:

SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL DIVIDENDS PAID IN 190— (PRECEDING YEAR) AND ANNUAL PREMIUMS PER $1,000,000 OF INSURANCE.

By Commissioner Arthur I. Vorys, of Ohio.

Kind of Policy.	Age at Issue.	Number of Years Policy Has Been in Force.															
		1		2		3		4		5		10		15		20	
		Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.	Div.	Div.	Prem.	Div.	Prem.	Div.
Whole life.....																	
20 year life.....																	
15 year life.....																	
10 year life.....																	
10 year endowment....	25																
15 year endowment....																	
20 year endowment....																	
25 year endowment....																	
Etc.																	
Whole life.....																	
20 year life.....																	
15 year life.....																	
10 year life.....																	
10 year endowment.....	35																
15 year endowment.....																	
20 year endowment.....																	
25 year enodwment.....																	
Etc.																	
Whole life.....																	
20 year life.....																	
15 year life.....																	
10 year life.....																	
10 year endowment.....	45																
15 year endowment.....																	
20 year endowment.....																	
25 year endowment.....																	
Etc.																	
Whole life.....																	
20 year life.....																	
15 year life.....																	
10 year life.....																	
10 year endowment.....	55																
15 year endowment.....																	
20 year endowment.....																	
25 year endowment.....																	
Etc.																	

Explanations:

(*Continued from page* 503.)

Cost of literature and circulation of same.
Salaries and fees of medical examiners.
Inspections.
Salaries and expenses of medical department.

BRANCH AND AGENCY OFFICES.

Rents, expenses, furniture, etc.
Salaries and traveling expenses.
Taxes upon new premiums, fees and licenses.

Renewal expenses include all disbursements under the following heads:
Renewal commissions.
Commutations of renewal premiums.
Collection and exchange charges.
Salaries and expenses, home office renewal and collection department.

GAIN AND LOSS EXHIBIT.

By Bradford K. Durfee

SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR.

CREDITS.

First year's premiums earned, less reinsurance and loading,
Renewal premiums earned, less reinsurance and loading.
Loading on premiums earned, first year,
Loading on premiums earned, renewals,
Reserves released on policies matured,
Reserves released by surrender and lapse,
Gain by compromise, policies matured or ended,
Interest earned,
Rents earned,
Profits on sale or maturity of assets,
All other profits,
Increase in market value of stocks and bonds.
Increase in market value of real estate,
Total credits,

DEBITS.

Death losses incurred,
Matured endowments,
Annuities,
Surrenders and lapse values allowed,
Dividends, whole life policies, used over reserves or applied from year's receipts,
Dividends, limited payment policies over reserves,
Dividends, tontine and deferred policies,
Dividends, endowment policies,
Interest required to maintain reserve,
Increase in reserve on year's premiums earned,
Legislation expenses, yes or no, amounts paid in each State,
Taxes, repairs and expenses on real estate, incurred,

EXPENSE ITEMS.

Commissions to agents or others on new business,
Commissions to agents or others on renewals,
Commuted commissions,
*All other agency expenses, on new business, includes all of medical examinations, supervision and inspection of risks, salaries and expenses of agents and managers, advertising, three-fourths of stationery, express charges, telegrams, telephones, postage, one-half insurance department fees and licenses, one-fourth of legal expenses and miscellaneous.
** Home office expenses include—
Salaries of general officers and home office employees, all furniture, fixtures and safes and remainder of amounts named in agency expenses,
Loss on sale or maturity of assets,
Depreciation in stocks and bonds,
Depreciation in real estate,
Surplus at end of year,
Estimated mortality incurred for the year, actuaries' tables,
Actual mortality incurred for the year, matured policies,
Gain per cent.,
Agency cost, first year's premiums earned, per cent. to premiums earned,
Agency cost, renewal premiums earned, per cent. to premiums earned,
Jurat by an officer of the company.

* N. B.—If no new business, collection could be made through banks; no advertising would be needed and other expenses reduced.
** N. B.—Some of this might be comprised in agency expenses but the tendency would be to equalize.

Report of the Committee of Twenty on Conditions in Brooklyn and Queens.

The report of the Committee of Twenty of the National Board of Fire Underwriters on conditions in the boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens of the city of New York was issued this week. From the "General Summary" the following particulars are extracted:

FIRE FIGHTING FACILITIES.

Water Supply.—Brooklyn.—Works, except those of comparatively unimportant outlying sections, owned and operated by the municipality. Management capable and generally efficient. Supply very deficient, and the city has several times been dangerously near a water famine. Distribution in three services, with several small detached systems in outlying sections. Supply to low service, covering the greater part of the city and including nearly all the mercantile and manufacturing sections, is mainly by gravity from distributing reservoir; to other services by direct pumpage with equalizing reservoir or standpipe. Inadequate reserve pumping capacity in all important stations. Distributing reservoirs hold about two days' supply. Rate of consumption moderate. Pressures too low for operation of sprinkler equipments, but generally sufficient to furnish good fire engine supply; in mercantile and manufacturing sections average 40 pounds. Large proportion of distributing mains 6 inch, with infrequent connection and poor gridironing in some parts of the city. Gate valves too few for good control; condition poor in some cases. Hydrants well spaced, but a large proportion are of unsatisfactory types poorly maintained. Conditions in the more important high value districts are generally satisfactory, owing to superior type of hydrant and better distribution.

Water Supply.—Queens.—Supply works mainly of private ownership; supply inadequate. Several detached systems fed by direct pumpage. Pressures fairly satisfactory. Distribution systems poor.

Fire Department.—Well organized on full paid basis in all except Jamaica, Flushing and some other parts of Queens, where service is volunteer. Present supervision excellent. Companies generally well manned, but spaced too far apart. Engines of small capacity; many inefficient. Fire boats, one good, others not powerful. Ladder service only fair. Chemicals employed chiefly in outlying districts. Supply of hose moderate; of good quality. Minor equipment fair. Methods generally good; discipline fair; response to alarm poorly arranged. Service as a whole strong in the aggregate, though somewhat weak locally.

Fire Alarm System.—Of mixed type; part automatic with manual central office. Organization defective. Present supervision fair to good. Headquarters insecure. Apparatus generally fair, but incomplete. Boxes of undesirable type; inconspicuous, mostly without keys. Distribution fair to good. Circuits of overhead construction and overloaded. Box circuits frequently used to transmit signals to houses. Batteries all primary; some of open circuit type. Methods of operation satisfactory. Service as a whole fair, but seriously exposed to interruptions.

Fire Department Auxiliaries.—Volunteer departments of all degrees of efficiency; generally fair. Salvage corps protection limited to a part of Brooklyn. Fire marshal's duties properly executed. Co-operation of police department and public service corporations usually good. Telephone service and auxiliary alarm system satisfactory. Some additional protection afforded by local alarm system, central station watch services, private patrols and private fire apparatus. Outside aid powerful and easily accessible.

Summary.—Danger of serious shortage before additional water supply is available. Fire engine supply in high value district generally good, elsewhere only fair, as influenced by distribution system. Fire department strong in the aggregate, generally efficient. Fire alarm system only fairly satisfactory, though extensive.

STRUCTURAL CONDITIONS AND HAZARDS.

Building Department.—Laws comprehensive, but inadequate to meet the requirements of a metropolis developing under special conditions of growth, especially as to height, area and protection on wall and floor openings and as to structural iron and steel work. Enforcement generally good on superior construction, but very poor otherwise.

Explosives and Inflammables.—Laws and regulations comprehensive, specific and well designed. Enforcement good, as far as it goes; many hazardous conditions exist, owing to small force handling situation.

Electricity.—Municipality and underwriters enforce provisions of National Code in effect. Inspections by both good. New inside work in very good condition; old, generally fair. Outside wiring in fairly good condition, but too much of it is overhead. Electrolysis has proved troublesome, and, though watched, may be expected to cause more trouble, especially in Queens.

Conflagration Hazard.—Potential.—In Brooklyn the potential hazard varies from a low degree in the thinly built residence, warehouse and outlying manufacturing districts to severe in the east half of Section 1, and most of Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 and 15 (Coney Island).

In Queens it is negligible as a whole, although serious in a few waterfront blocks and several extensive though practically isolated lumber yards.

Probability.—Owing to the separation of the congested value districts, the probability hazard as a whole is light. It is also less in proportion than the potential in the various districts, owing to good private and public protection in the larger groups and the comparative isolation of dangerous blocks.

Summary.—The city, consisting of several centres formerly

(*Continued on page* 508.)

Life Insurance Business in Connecticut in 1905.

Companies.	Policies Issued. No.	Policies Issued. Amount.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. No.	Policies in Force Dec. 31, 1905. Amount.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna	386	$738,092	5,893	$10,268,895	$412,636	$193,645
Berkshire	40	71,000	1,231	1,907,100	61,398	84,729
Connecticut General.	571	959,303	4,291	6,196,713	216,871	88,492
Connecticut Mut.	199	485,716	2,641	6,549,393	259,613	162,220
Equitable	348	713,739	3,815	8,992,585	348,677	136,467
Fidelity Mutual	130	339,822	575	1,268,318	47,988	10,000
Germania Life	44	55,600	269	398,051	18,295	10,067
Hartford Life	66	84,752	984	1,012,038	50,588	17,880
Home Life	26	55,623	633	1,189,577	48,075	35,918
John Hancock	1,321	1,282,871	2,213	2,439,272	86,239	19,870
Massachusetts Mut.	384	594,699	2,258	4,225,124	159,334	63,622
Metropolitan	4,064	2,619,438	14,838	10,312,584	1,811,437	101,458
Mutual Benefit	433	671,105	2,949	5,912,609	194,592	87,417
Mutual Life, N. Y.	736	993,465	8,828	18,858,728	633,294	521,335
National Life, Vt.	154	199,963	620	905,148	38,898	5,649
New England Mut.	310	613,264	1,896	3,313,067	123,940	35,633
New York Life	1,110	1,970,136	9,228	15,276,393	612,721	316,364
Northwestern Mut.	745	1,728,250	6,369	13,705,530	491,056	232,429
Penn. Mutual	117	277,668	789	1,768,654	66,618	24,085
Phœnix Mutual	135	246,824	3,130	4,799,819	294,768	129,494
Provident L. and T.	158	328,553	812	1,536,868	69,364	3,016
Provident Savings	403	292,512	628	626,119	20,075	3,000
Prudential	1,776	1,500,493	6,712	6,013,814	230,802	49,413
Reliance	24	33,250	24	32,250	1,033	------
Security Mutual	81	94,575	233	421,412	11,373	------
State Mutual	200	402,859	1,293	2,721,095	103,301	62,675
Travelers	310	730,183	1,964	4,262,835	207,740	97,836
Union Central	37	173,500	520	1,354,413	44,258	3,000
Union Mutual	26	36,521	177	273,648	8,140	1,155
United States	65	111,830	633	1,000,938	46,723	19,340
Washington	113	162,850	1,162	1,616,965	79,689	17,315
Totals, 1905	14,512	$18,568,456	87,608	$139,159,955	$5,461,783	$2,533,461
" 1904	14,930	19,264,300	81,423	132,475,891	5,287,059	2,307,027
" 1903	13,125	16,925,467	73,751	122,923,056	4,958,067	2,223,396
" 1902	13,000	17,613,832	69,484	120,321,647	4,537,685	2,171,835
" 1901	11,727	16,413,191	62,818	112,454,271	4,128,216	2,154,850
" 1900	10,462	16,435,309	57,263	106,542,011	4,118,167	2,194,527
" 1899	9,771	15,147,736	52,203	98,749,330	3,439,202	1,683,138
" 1898	8,031	12,764,910	47,113	91,086,100	3,080,056	1,599,903
" 1897	6,211	10,521,464	43,210	85,871,224	2,837,242	1,405,318
" 1896	4,997	9,623,397	40,554	81,983,787	2,661,471	1,442,048
" 1895	4,087	8,748,756	37,257	77,056,012	2,587,223	1,276,139
" 1894	4,551	9,445,966	36,267	74,715,434	2,536,481	1,356,964
" 1893	7,614	13,674,692	36,112	75,189,791	2,500,895	1,715,146
" 1892	5,989	11,305,579	33,865	70,673,158	2,275,901	1,160,996
" 1891	5,738	10,797,564	31,381	65,752,732	2,083,697	1,222,882
" 1890	4,322	9,351,186	------	------	2,035,934	1,094,838
" 1889	3,587	7,393,127	------	------	1,960,236	913,339
" 1888	2,834	6,414,482	------	------	1,985,600	1,038,238
" 1887	3,013	6,458,997	------	------	1,743,500	931,193
" 1886	3,511	7,651,097	------	------	1,646,896	1,020,410
" 1885	4,588	6,148,655	------	------	1,553,017	1,181,462
" 1884	4,372	6,001,571	------	------	1,450,707	1,174,429
" 1883	5,673	7,317,931	------	------	1,477,958	949,266
" 1882	3,919	4,965,033	------	------	1,290,936	324,891

INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE BUSINESS IN 1905.

John Hancock	20,912	$3,304,926	85,698	$14,219,060	$616,866	$227,994
Metropolitan	38,092	7,980,596	214,118	40,994,283	1,337,756	516,831
Prudential	21,339	3,195,830	71,372	10,713,803	403,656	139,396
Totals, 1905	80,343	$14,481,352	371,188	$65,927,148	$2,358,277	$884,221
" 1904	86,724	16,326,945	347,076	61,784,400	2,239,450	827,729
" 1903	81,969	14,960,971	328,275	57,776,678	2,105,032	774,320
" 1902	86,925	15,600,112	304,561	53,429,165	1,895,496	651,490
" 1901	79,484	14,340,433	274,609	48,118,315	1,714,775	636,975
" 1900	74,742	13,735,760	350,128	43,428,741	1,537,983	635,441
" 1899	71,691	13,018,705	228,438	39,089,411	1,398,411	536,969

Fire Insurance Business in Nebraska in 1905.

(Compiled from the Statement of the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen & Munich F., Aix-la-Chapelle.	$400,957	$5,496	$4,858
Ætna, Hartford	4,953,580	71,184	35,402
Agricultural, Watertown	1,215,400	13,580	12,437
American, Boston	305,704	3,725	1,199
American, Newark	3,029,536	38,614	12,680
American Central, St. Louis	661,608	9,544	9,945
American Fire, Philadelphia	773,537	8,097	2,883
Assurance Company, New York	197,300	1,811	3,037
Atlas Assurance, London	612,454	7,926	4,840
British America, Toronto	593,778	8,700	10,502
British American, New York	203,804	2,876	3,460
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	261,896	3,393	2,046
Buffalo German, Buffalo	892,700	8,566	3,100
Caledonian, Edinburgh	1,166,572	16,165	15,558
Calumet Fire, Chicago	172,841	2,400	368
Citizens, St. Louis	762,979	9,670	13,923
Columbia Fire, Lincoln	18,717,047	244,050	77,820
Commercial Union, London	1,817,826	27,080	17,734
Commonwealth, New York	302,175	2,897	22
Concordia Fire, Milwaukee	623,491	7,805	4,080
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	5,037,210	78,486	37,150
Continental, New York	6,983,637	82,521	49,907
Delaware, Philadelphia	1,971,351	30,068	11,076
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	217,677	2,938	1,187
Equitable F. and M., Providence	486,593	6,099	4,876
Farmers and Merchants, Lincoln	8,966,628	104,640	31,857
Federal, Jersey City	247,700	2,401	1,129
Fire Association, Philadelphia	1,683,091	25,613	23,024
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	1,735,109	16,841	18,597
Firemen's, Newark	916,525	10,815	7,987
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	347,905	4,793	948
German, Freeport, Ill	7,562,680	107,524	41,324
German Alliance, New York	446,784	5,434	11,740
German American, New York	3,037,388	39,933	15,017
German National, Chicago	938,161	6,561	6,489
Germania Fire, New York	1,823,770	22,673	12,570
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia.	311,488	4,286	2,127
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	3,385,297	32,261	15,924
Hamburg-Bremen, Hamburg	513,734	8,917	6,763
Hanover Fire, New York	858,699	11,649	7,336
Hartford Fire, Hartford	7,623,242	108,222	73,505
Home, New York	12,785,828	138,500	107,295
Home F. and M., San Francisco	365,214	3,831	6,566
Indemnity Fire, New York	117,039	1,749	1,425
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	170,681	3,166	4,825
Insurance Co. of N. America, Phila.	2,579,492	38,278	30,530
Ins. Company of State of Illinois	269,166	4,000	55
Law Union and Crown, London	149,661	2,347	510
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverp'l	5,051,806	52,337	32,388
Liverpool & London & Globe, N. Y.	268,351	3,474	318
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	842,038	9,855	3,063
London Assurance Corporation	387,330	5,275	3,967
Mechanics, Philadelphia	142,775	2,083	2,130
Mercantile Fire and Marine, Boston.	114,722	1,642	384
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	387,236	5,319	947
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	1,487,664	22,028	12,645
National Fire, Hartford	2,764,019	37,065	15,644
National Union, Pittsburgh	754,095	9,485	7,506
Nebraska Underwriters, Lincoln	7,261,416	103,657	18,169
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	1,713,326	19,992	15,258
New York Fire, New York	346,357	4,017	1,019
Niagara Fire, New York	1,004,055	14,187	7,425
North British & Mercantile, London	2,613,447	32,987	13,893
Northern, London	1,219,966	15,866	18,073
North German Fire, New York	487,095	7,138	1,462
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	3,160,856	31,787	13,606
Norwich Union, Norwich	647,573	9,106	10,643
Orient, Hartford	777,160	9,549	6,837
Palatine, London	687,140	12,438	4,210
Pelican, New York	179,270	2,567	1,519
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	1,340,798	16,050	19,995
Phenix, Brooklyn	8,681,052	141,163	64,896
Phœnix, Hartford	2,942,061	35,343	26,483
Phœnix, London	846,214	12,215	6,081
Providence Washington, Providence	1,524,002	12,895	10,703
Prussian National, Stettin	635,704	4,758	2,278
Queen City Fire, Sioux City	535,461	8,871	15
Queen, New York	1,661,693	22,226	12,912
Reliance, Philadelphia	2,441,640	31,289	13,096
Rochester German, Rochester	324,844	5,024	6,459
Royal, Liverpool	2,091,444	28,749	22,035
Royal Exchange, London	48,417	653	79
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	4,125,489	52,989	20,663
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	283,154	4,332	6,570
Scottish Union and Nat., Edinburgh.	505,872	6,993	8,288
Security, New Haven	2,002,047	20,131	9,162
Skandia, Gothenburg	354,630	4,983	7,217
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	4,990,071	69,849	48,112
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	762,461	12,621	13,262
State Fire, London	58,784	811	596
State, Lincoln	2,782,754	49,754	13,839
Sun, London	1,783,289	22,602	14,992
Svea Fire and Life, Gothenburg	341,845	5,148	4,830
Traders, Chicago	911,207	12,176	10,402
Transatlantic, Hamburg	90,600	1,364	------
Union, London	323,035	4,492	3,693
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	158,710	3,047	2,426
Victoria Fire, New York	18,015	127	21
Westchester Fire, New York	776,862	9,096	2,525
Western, Toronto	1,985,188	21,130	21,410
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York.	632,293	6,660	7,252
Totals, 1905	$187,454,267	$2,437,521	$1,339,036
COMPARISON WITH BUSINESS OF PREVIOUS YEARS.			
1904	$170,508,823	$2,347,358	$964,304
1903	147,203,375	1,935,011	911,765
1902	127,583,866	1,695,286	667,950
1901	137,683,007	1,726,906	625,232
1900	132,141,072	1,583,596	574,188
1899	121,390,473	1,490,067	734,487
1898	106,583,277	1,407,416	616,351
1897	98,103,685	1,387,593	438,904
1896	89,740,440	1,377,686	614,712
1895	94,469,027	1,524,577	947,392
1894	107,641,249	1,816,538	1,126,152
1893	132,591,141	1,998,147	1,288,448
1892	137,564,820	2,109,878	842,986
1891	120,146,234	1,809,995	874,731
1880 to 1890, inclusive	814,312,465	13,633,763	5,266,668

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 44.2. The percentage in 1905 was 55.0.

Fire Insurance Business in Michigan in 1905.

(From a Preliminary Report by the Insurance Commissioner.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$2,510,455	$37,414	$12,125
Ætna, Hartford	7,414,156	107,747	47,485
Agricultural, Watertown	3,686,100	46,714	14,167
Allegheny, Allegheny	169,845	2,310	210
Allemannia, Pittsburgh	1,381,191	18,234	8,835
American, Boston	1,570,907	21,608	5,612
American, Newark	7,976,883	101,104	43,214
American Central, St. Louis	5,107,795	85,633	21,568
American Fire, Philadelphia	5,426,572	60,985	27,159
American Lloyds, New York	320,500	1,866	------
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	1,699,443	34,684	24,304
Armenia, Pittsburgh	558,950	7,772	767
Assurance Company of New York	916,578	11,511	8,512
Atlanta Birmingham, Birmingham	621,063	11,977	5,378
Atlas, London	3,614,100	49,010	14,591
British America, Toronto	3,323,535	52,708	18,221
British American, New York	279,762	3,737	77
Buffalo Commercial, Buffalo	1,012,698	11,496	4,271
Buffalo German, Buffalo	1,877,424	20,085	6,991
Caledonian, Edinburgh	2,412,977	35,312	14,014
Caledonian American, New York	------	1,647	------
Calumet Fire, Chicago	765,335	13,941	1,817
Camden Fire, Camden	884,257	11,900	512
Capital Fire, Concord	682,452	9,232	32
Citizens, St. Louis	3,702,577	67,992	33,067
Cologne Reinsurance, Cologne	730,824	12,055	3,442
Colonial, New York	1,591,590	29,765	8,506
Commerce, New York	478,767	6,106	4,608
Commercial Union, London	6,795,403	104,690	39,473
Commercial Union, New York	1,012,739	15,904	5,864
Commonwealth, New York	840,950	8,000	184
Concordia, Milwaukee	6,845,215	75,169	40,031
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	6,431,873	105,378	43,510
Continental, New York	12,385,034	178,597	62,963
Cooper, Dayton	2,622,530	30,533	9,131
County Fire Ins. Co. of Philadelphia	551,277	6,550	5,177
Delaware, Philadelphia	1,851,287	23,706	7,331
Detroit Fire and Marine, Detroit	9,085,012	102,889	47,009
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	520,896	8,215	4,218
Eagle Fire, New York	699,290	9,499	65
Eastern Fire, Atlantic City	417,891	6,363	1,930
Equitable Fire & Marine, Providence	3,302,594	62,177	25,007
Eureka Fire and Marine, Cincinnati	1,532,419	17,074	6,714
Farmers and Merchants, Lincoln	483,851	6,861	2,144
Farmers Fire, York	814,788	13,721	5,904
Federal, Jersey City	969,105	11,650	6,454
Fire Association, Philadelphia	7,612,174	124,685	40,383
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	7,049,027	101,458	29,696
Firemen's, Newark	2,269,101	24,757	8,531
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	2,627,841	41,445	12,072
German, Freeport, Ill	8,153,734	107,555	53,332
German, Peoria, Ill	2,371,082	33,955	9,674
German Alliance, New York	1,680,643	26,286	8,089
German American, New York	8,568,285	117,494	41,762
German, Indianapolis	373,848	4,619	3,076
German, Pittsburgh	2,242,718	30,143	13,726
German National, Chicago	2,259,693	31,433	13,447
Germania Fire, New York	10,359,420	135,239	47,486
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	1,843,886	22,358	5,153
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	5,546,868	55,392	22,632
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	2,013,230	38,974	9,968
Granite State, Portsmouth	2,176,071	27,868	9,153
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	4,762,368	81,807	37,573
Hamilton Fire, New York	138,750	2,086	133
Hanover Fire, New York	5,672,638	87,082	32,036
Hartford Fire, Hartford	22,158,459	330,075	152,739
Home, New York	16,007,162	190,300	101,926
Home F. and M., San Francisco	3,077,881	40,916	16,608
Indemnity Fire, New York	415,120	5,426	650
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	2,080,822	31,785	5,157
Insurance Company of N. America	9,709,396	148,116	67,137
Jefferson Fire, Philadelphia	200,000	3,299	1,361
Law Union and Crown, London	195,367	2,435	101
Liverpool & London & Globe, Liverpool	14,129,545	201,259	78,462
Liv. and Lon. and Globe, New York	1,922,707	32,790	9,014
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	3,449,126	48,922	14,081
London Assurance, London	3,759,645	56,749	10,125
Lumbermen's, Philadelphia	1,804,396	23,717	7,655
Mechanics, Philadelphia	2,118,860	28,290	10,573
Mechanics and Traders, Philadelphia	391,983	3,546	1,323
Mercantile F. and M., Boston	689,431	10,599	3,302
Metropolitan, Chicago	361,170	8,243	1,738
Michigan Commercial, Lansing	2,048,617	25,390	4,957
Michigan F. and M., Detroit	9,346,126	89,757	32,047
Michigan Millers' Mutual, Lansing	1,641,175	41,797	16,867
Milwaukee Fire, Milwaukee	1,393,918	17,347	4,338
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	4,523,459	61,234	30,558
Moscow, Moscow	1,551,242	------	12,067
Nassau Fire, New York	1,724,215	22,668	10,068
National, Allegheny	370,241	6,466	3,745
National Fire, Hartford	15,535,208	211,434	73,866
National Lumber, New York	11,500	262	------
National Union, Pittsburgh	3,060,935	42,168	13,480
Newark Fire, Newark	851,923	11,783	4,077
New Brunswick, New Brunswick	74,933	1,145	------
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	2,694,396	29,376	15,066
New York Fire, New York	1,022,759	17,901	5,764
Niagara Fire, New York	5,822,124	95,657	38,835
North British and Mercantile, London	8,850,931	129,815	47,934
North British and Mercantile, N. Y.	617,610	3,221	102
Northern, New York	396,203	4,692	618
Northern, London	7,024,432	117,028	36,609
North German Fire, New York	1,741,996	20,339	7,010
North River, New York	4,203,528	68,749	14,356
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	5,664,028	53,963	21,166
Norwich Union, Norwich	3,883,487	63,959	23,769
Orient, Hartford	2,683,531	41,140	20,726
Palatine, London	3,483,075	53,396	16,866
Pelican, New York	452,515	6,341	3,058
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	6,345,119	79,235	33,864
Peter Cooper, New York	471,615	7,073	519
Phenix, Brooklyn	9,989,992	147,310	55,447
Phœnix, Hartford	9,628,273	117,924	44,671
Phœnix, London	3,732,387	65,968	26,691
Pittsburgh Fire, Pittsburgh	650,897	5,015	3,222
Providence Washington, Providence	4,571,086	61,758	24,559
Prussian National, Stettin	4,653,145	51,817	30,105
Queen City Fire, Sioux City	374,292	5,315	962
Queen, New York	7,375,710	117,454	47,062
Reliance, Philadelphia	2,726,040	33,124	9,970
Rochester German, Rochester	2,510,340	32,318	16,219
Royal, London	8,622,980	137,276	51,437
Royal Exchange, London	3,380,279	54,958	16,817
St. Paul F. and M., St. Paul	5,235,455	58,117	20,380
Salamandra, St. Petersburg	1,965,463	35,043	14,586
Scottish U. and N., Edinburgh	3,855,214	57,066	19,988
Security, New Haven	4,409,595	52,810	18,498
Security, Baltimore	1,194,193	10,232	1,535
Security Fire, Cincinnati	1,532,419	17,074	6,704
Skandia, Gothenburg	1,486,646	26,012	15,425
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	8,087,609	104,856	33,286
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	2,206,670	31,895	6,187
Star Fire, Louisville	234,769	7,687	1,091
State Fire, London	238,407	3,228	278
Sun, London	6,140,515	61,921	22,032
Svea, Gothenburg	671,056	9,863	54
Teutonia, New Orleans	928,212	12,872	7,111
Teutonia Fire and Marine, Dayton	632,645	6,746	4,016
Toledo Fire and Marine, Toledo	341,730	7,352	2,800
Traders, Chicago	3,627,843	54,132	13,557
Transatlantic, Hamburg	237,875	3,532	------
Union, Philadelphia	1,308,585	14,550	5,797
Union, London	798,668	11,321	2,771
Union Fire, New York	342,115	4,458	1,296
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	1,325,630	23,233	5,654
United States Fire, New York	1,588,401	23,149	10,895
Victoria Fire, New York	59,334	655	11
Westchester Fire, New York	5,487,190	83,827	30,228
Western, Pittsburgh	2,122,778	22,559	8,881
Western, Toronto	4,110,697	53,397	17,477
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	2,617,799	30,735	8,131
Totals, 1905	$496,568,112	$6,904,519	$2,620,681
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$482,977,968	$6,774,092	$3,064,328
1903	447,468,156	6,467,705	3,065,767
1902	436,267,257	6,321,152	2,815,474
1901	427,572,100	5,367,430	3,159,304
1900	406,175,621	4,979,981	3,102,701
1899	382,540,160	4,602,684	2,473,065
1898	330,603,384	4,498,445	2,467,549
1897	298,937,213	4,298,618	2,077,976
1896	284,158,820	4,262,872	2,825,709
1895	289,059,338	4,351,167	2,089,359
1894	283,738,338	4,302,988	2,422,483
1893	301,887,793	4,470,490	2,571,734
1892	298,767,231	4,275,173	2,231,883
1891	279,473,169	3,999,826	2,478,920
1890	264,732,845	3,762,845	2,186,201
1880 to 1889, inclusive	2,154,000,301	30,607,774	16,315,138

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 52.5. The percentage in 1905 was 38.0.

Fire Insurance Business in South Carolina in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Ætna, Hartford	$7,199,343	$118,555	$45,892
Agricultural, Watertown	419,100	5,590	30
American, Boston	92,375	1,226	1
American, Newark	522,000	8,414	1,833
American Central, St. Louis	574,457	7,289	2,208
American Fire, Philadelphia	1,396,677	22,487	5,319
Assurance Company of New York	274,390	3,586	2,804
Atlanta Birmingham, Birmingham	720,711	11,646	2,357
Atlas, London	592,247	10,231	3,442
British America, Toronto	510,292	10,253	11,934
Caledonian, Edinburgh	460,095	7,052	3,529
Citizens, St. Louis	659,628	11,677	8,458
Commercial Union, London	2,890,853	26,948	12,606
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	423,800	6,865	4,047
Continental, New York	3,447,749	56,586	30,667
Eagle Fire, New York	116,345	1,883	------
Federal, Jersey City	179,605	2,109	------
Fire Association, Philadelphia	2,788,911	33,269	19,050
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	4,016,898	26,644	16,301

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Georgia Home, Columbus	922,123	12,676	4,018
German, Freeport, Ill	680,848	7,979	6,943
German Alliance, New York	497,075	8,376	1,402
German American, New York	4,867,384	31,711	8,821
Germania Fire, New York	1,024,610	13,718	4,676
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	3,657,665	35,550	13,258
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	1,253,303	23,118	10,229
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	337,006	7,255	1,874
Hanover Fire, New York	978,916	17,368	11,735
Hartford Fire, Hartford	9,367,392	111,015	42,052
Home, New York	7,206,338	72,977	77,451
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	23,133	484	------
Insurance Co. of North America	2,410,213	44,314	19,853
Liv. and Lon. and Globe, Liverpool	5,680,663	85,116	44,342
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	3,105,067	14,620	3,233
London Assurance Corporation	430,201	7,175	788
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	307,358	7,482	5,419
National Fire, Hartford	2,375,706	17,318	9,348
New Hampshire Fire, Manchester	1,910,848	12,215	9,917
New York Fire, New York	122,869	2,170	580
Niagara Fire, New York	1,401,014	13,304	6,468
North British and Mercantile	3,557,733	27,635	14,011
Northern, London	3,100,335	23,410	8,978
Norwich Union, Norwich	1,222,982	21,580	12,851
Orient, Hartford	459,661	6,417	1,506
Palatine, London	444,503	7,883	5,302
Pelican, New York	42,969	780	147
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	1,298,128	23,979	7,371
Phenix, Brooklyn	3,329,653	70,221	34,165
Phœnix, Hartford	3,381,740	30,280	15,629
Phœnix, London	530,671	12,957	7,087
Queen, New York	2,541,122	26,682	11,684
Rochester German, Rochester	490,620	9,163	15,869
Royal, Liverpool	3,391,914	39,004	17,924
Royal Exchange, London	604,429	10,773	11,764
St. Paul F. and M., St. Paul	764,246	10,246	3,050
Scottish Union and National	1,719,399	12,435	6,878
Southern Stock Mutual, Greensboro	586,870	10,596	5,636
Southern Underwriters, Greensboro	392,979	7,054	5,969
Springfield Fire and Marine	3,361,459	23,468	18,461
Sun, London	855,420	18,436	4,182
Sun, New Orleans	459,227	8,986	3,047
Teutonia, New Orleans	248,860	5,226	3,426
Toledo F. and M., Toledo	36,750	1,115	------
Traders, Chicago	618,269	10,556	6,589
Union, London	1,997,214	10,264	3,620
Virginia State, Richmond	439,667	8,477	4,221
Westchester Fire, New York	699,217	11,053	6,087
Western, Toronto	4,520,476	18,369	21,283
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	206,824	3,065	447
Totals, 1905	$117,148,548	$1,388,356	$710,069
Comparison with Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$109,768,831	$1,228,057	$732,451
1903	92,034,826	1,640,253	543,488
1902	83,232,691	1,141,534	685,619
1901	68,124,822	904,554	516,834
1900	74,709,918	978,416	389,175
1899	56,897,130	791,409	330,457
1898	46,172,063	704,056	650,982
1897	43,509,449	660,873	282,518
1896	42,802,986	649,906	301,277
1895	43,058,101	656,859	367,756
1894	43,057,308	639,968	437,658
1893	50,248,020	718,605	654,443
1892	53,668,767	702,552	618,357
1891	53,531,870	714,547	339,850
1880 to 1890	502,977,051	6,095,038	2,768,526

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 52.9. The percentage for 1905 was 51.4.

Fire Insurance Business in Utah in 1905.

(Reported by the Companies to The Weekly Underwriter.)

Companies.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
Aachen and Munich, Aix-la-Chapelle	$475,961	$7,433	$1,997
Ætna, Hartford	390,975	6,476	257
Agricultural, Watertown	151,200	2,917	898
Allemannia Fire, Pittsburgh	490,964	8,375	1,749
Alliance, London	415,474	6,777	1,750
American, Boston	798,725	9,317	6,290
American, Newark	251,534	4,523	863
American Fire, Philadelphia	191,948	4,166	2,292
Anchor Fire, Cincinnati	479,802	7,519	3,655
Atlas, London	487,050	8,745	25
British America, Toronto	344,598	5,247	2,318
Caledonian, Edinburgh	405,065	6,089	2,453
California Fire, San Francisco	27,250	388	1
Camden Fire, Camden	232,783	3,571	65
Citizens, St. Louis	193,310	3,518	1,072
Commercial Union, London	600,649	8,222	1,254
Concordia, Milwaukee	99,750	718	12
Connecticut Fire, Hartford	705,690	11,252	104
Delaware, Philadelphia	40,574	823	2
Dutchess, Poughkeepsie	512,782	8,215	3,161
Fire Association, Philadelphia	250,352	5,573	1,557
Fireman's Fund, San Francisco	838,662	16,860	2,350
Franklin Fire, Philadelphia	317,971	5,201	1,526
German, Freeport	1,098,233	11,026	2,460
German, Peoria	464,372	7,299	1,886
German Alliance, New York	180,375	2,129	------
German American, New York	529,225	8,614	502
German National, Chicago	324,866	5,262	884
Germania Fire, New York	501,383	6,844	3,047
Girard Fire and Marine, Philadelphia	652,185	9,630	7,570
Glens Falls, Glens Falls	528,625	5,271	206
Globe and Rutgers Fire, New York	477,751	8,176	1,521
Hamburg Bremen, Hamburg	187,755	3,566	------
Hanover Fire, New York	304,000	4,861	1,713
Hartford Fire, Hartford	3,346,659	55,243	9,420
Home, New York	2,114,788	32,540	6,561
Home, Salt Lake City	3,928,713	63,459	8,314
Home F. and M., San Francisco	312,992	5,900	------
Indianapolis Fire, Indianapolis	4,625	108	------
Insurance Co. of North America	411,100	7,272	798
Law Union and Crown, London	200,773	3,660	327
Liv. and Lon. and Globe, Liverpool	766,010	11,801	2,753
London and Lancashire, Liverpool	341,225	6,512	5,382
London Assurance Corporation	345,797	5,222	86
Mercantile F. and M., Boston	156,733	2,830	659
Michigan Fire and Marine, Detroit	44,400	892	------
Milwaukee Mechanics, Milwaukee	651,233	8,260	1,555
Nassau Fire, New York	240,071	3,288	503
National Fire, Hartford	555,170	10,826	714
National Union, Pittsburgh	919,240	12,730	1,128
New Hampshire Fire, Concord	257,548	3,226	249
New York Fire, New York	352,197	5,072	1,140
New Zealand F. and M., Auckland	251,000	4,190	89
North British and Mercantile, London	877,937	16,126	595
Northern, London	368,125	6,691	1,105
North River, New York	263,674	3,919	524
Northwestern National, Milwaukee	833,775	7,758	578
Norwich Union, Norwich	301,400	5,785	4,139
Orient, Hartford	53,595	916	1,942
Palatine, London	1,016,128	22,648	46,573
Pennsylvania Fire, Philadelphia	144,825	2,655	491
Phenix, Brooklyn	252,948	5,867	2,408
Phœnix, Hartford	329,875	5,111	83
Providence Washington, Providence	166,100	2,344	103
Prussian National, Stettin	281,600	3,267	446
Queen, New York	498,177	8,400	393
Rochester German, Rochester	126,696	2,067	51
Royal, London	875,993	17,708	6,766
Royal Exchange, London	261,254	4,293	73
St. Paul Fire and Marine, St. Paul	705,489	5,336	9
Scottish Union and National, Edinb'h.	337,366	5,625	931
Security, New Haven	252,908	2,992	------
Springfield F. and M., Springfield	275,490	6,129	236
Spring Garden, Philadelphia	34,727	524	98
State Fire, London	47,525	953	------
Sun, London	255,700	4,003	805
Svea Fire and Life, Gothenburg	231,272	4,358	1,815
Teutonia, New Orleans	165,233	2,470	404
Traders, Chicago	78,435	1,389	330
Transatlantic Fire, Hamburg	169,025	3,155	504
Union, London	229,070	4,095	46
United Firemen's, Philadelphia	106,250	1,147	300
Westchester Fire, New York	583,076	10,100	4,114
Western, Toronto	214,791	3,409	34
Williamsburgh City Fire, New York	593,550	10,148	5,032
Totals, 1905	$40,084,121	$639,799	$176,475
Comparison With Business of Previous Years.			
1904	$44,970,697	$705,778	$141,220
1903	36,311,225	587,069	440,071
1902	33,551,450	536,667	328,296
1901	35,410,301	491,491	268,130
1900	28,457,553	486,410	108,789
1899	24,865,278	440,554	92,384
1898	26,324,092	441,931	231,857
1897	19,697,212	361,976	215,829
1896	16,621,320	278,891	82,017
1895	21,778,723	285,099	168,324
1894	20,828,551	346,990	123,094
1893	29,605,742	337,130	262,383
1892	20,543,362	389,356	178,897
1891	17,456,171	333,321	113,497
1880 to 1890	78,457,885	1,541,644	562,889

The percentage of losses paid to premiums received in the twenty-six years embraced in the above table is 42.6. The percentage in 1905 was 27.5.

(Continued from page 505.)

separate communities which have gradually coalesced, presents little uniformity either of destructible values or conflagration hazard. In fact, a general conflagration over a major portion of the city is practically impossible, but severe local conflagrations are not only possible but probable in various sections. The so-called main congested value section, consisting of the dry goods and office district, involves a bad conflagration hazard in the

east half, but comparatively little in the west half, which is fairly well separated by the Borough Hall square and fireproof buildings. The hazard in the east half is due mainly to the large ordinary construction dry goods and department stores within striking distance of one another. The Gowanus Canal district has in portions a severe conflagration hazard, as many large properties, internally non-resistive, adjoin and expose one another. A somewhat similar condition exists in the Newtown Creek district, and the water front property here and at Bushwick Inlet is exposed to the floating oil hazard in case of a general fire in oil works nearby. Elsewhere there is little danger of a sweeping fire in the water front property, owing to the good subdivisions and long, strung out disposition of the property, although several wharves could become involved in one fire. The closely built tenement sections present a serious problem in that, under adverse conditions, there is nothing to prevent a fire from sweeping through them. Under ordinary conditions the progress of even an abandoned fire would be slow, owing to the common use of brick filling which is more resistive than brick walls cut by light shafts. Coney Island, in spite of the separate fire main system, is likely to lose its amusement centre at any time, much depending upon whether fires are caught on the jump. Elsewhere in the boroughs conditions are not serious from a conflagration standpoint.

Progress of the Bowles-Lawson-Untermyer Expedition.

The so called International Policyholders' Committee, of which Samuel Untermyer, counsel of Thomas W. Lawson, is counsel and director, announced this week that the following persons have consented to act as a committee for the International Policyholders' Committee to oppose the tickets for trustees of the Mutual Life and New York Life insurance companies, which will be nominated by the administrations of these companies:

Governor N. B. Broward, of Florida.
Governor N. C. Blanchard, of Louisiana.
The Rev. Dr. Russell H. Conwell, of the Baptist Church.
President E. E. Clark, of the Order of Railway Conductors.
Cardinal Gibbons, of the Roman Catholic Church.
Judge George Gray, of Delaware.
Governor J. Frank Hanly, of Indiana.
James C. Hemphill, of South Carolina.
Harlow N. Higinbotham, of Illinois.
Congressman Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio.
Frederick B. Niedringhaus, of Missouri.
Samuel Newhouse, of Utah.
Bishop C. C. McCabe, of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
Fremont Older, of California.
Richard Olney, of Massachusetts, ex-Secretary of State.
Governor S. W. Pennypacker, of Pennsylvania.
Ex-Judge Alton B. Parker, of New York.
Governor Henry Roberts, of Connecticut.
Col. A. M. Shook, of Tennessee.
Charles Emory Smith, of Pennsylvania, ex-Postmaster General.
Gen. Benjamin F. Tracy, of New York, ex-Secretary of the Navy.
Thomas B. Wanamaker, of Pennsylvania.

The committee will have as additional members representatives of the policyholders' committees of England, France and Germany, now in process of formation. The committee will meet for organization in the city of New York on July 10.

Director Untermyer and his associates have been making a desperate effort to secure the lists of policyholders of the two companies in advance of their regular filing by the authorities of the companies. This week Mr. Untermyer published a statement regarding his futile efforts to get the New York Life list. He addressed the following demand to President Orr:

Assuming that on July 18 the lists will be accessible to our committee, and that there will not be other demands for them, real or fictitious, it would be impossible to copy the lists in time for the committee to communicate with the policyholders and agree on candidates, whose names must be filed before September 18.

We accordingly ask that you will permit the stencils in the possession of your company to be used by the Rapid Addressing Machine Company or by such other agency as you may select, in preparing for the use of the committee a copy of the lists of policyholders deliverable to the committee on July 18. Our committee will, of course, pay the legitimate expenses of such a copy, and if desired will make the payment in advance.

In view of the enormous expense of copying them independently, and of the practical impossibility of doing so in time, they are entitled to the use of the stencils, by means of which copies of the lists can be speedily and inexpensively made. I, therefore, request that you advise me at your earliest convenience whether your company will agree to allow the stencils to be used for the purpose indicated.

I spoke to Mr. McIntosh, the solicitor of your company, on this subject over the telephone a few days ago, and was amazed at the arrogant and unjustifiable stand which he assumed, which has been quite in keeping with his hostile attitude toward the policyholders, by whom he is paid, from the beginning of the Armstrong investigation down to and including his open and persistent lobbying against the vital features of the Armstrong bill. Mr. McIntosh actually told me, in response to my request, that he thought the feature of the Armstrong bill allowing the policyholders to see the lists was a mistake, and that his company did not propose to assist any such undertaking.

I have no doubt that from the point of view of Mr. McIntosh the entire investigation and the reform legislation was "a mistake," but the policyholders do not quite agree with that view.

The New York Life has replied, through Mr. McIntosh, its counsel, declining to accede to Mr. Untermyer's request. Mr. McIntosh says:

This company will strictly comply with all the features of the late legislation requiring it to file with the Superintendent of Insurance two full and correct lists of the names and the last known addresses of its policyholders, and to maintain two similar lists at its home office, and to file in the various States, Territories and countries, in an office designated for that purpose, two similar lists of policyholders residing within such jurisdiction.

To do more than comply with this law would be as unjustifiable as to fall short of fully complying with it, for the law enforces the disclosure of confidential contract relations without the consent of the policyholders and against the will of a very large number of them, the company justifying itself because it is so nominated in the law. This ground of justification, however, would be unavailing if the company voluntarily did more than the law requires.

These policyholders claim, and rightly claim, that the relations between them and the company are confidential, and they demand that this confidence be respected. Some of them demand this on account of their family relations, some for financial reasons; others because of natural secretiveness and the like. Whatever their motives, however, they are within their rights. These rights the courts recognize and respect.

Mr. McIntosh quotes from the decision of the Appellate Division in the Venner case:

The solicitations these policyholders might be exposed to, the offers that might be made to them to exchange their policies for others, might result in great harm and loss to many innocent, inexperienced and easily influenced men.

He also quotes from the report of a commission appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts to inquire into insurance conditions:

We are convinced that the evils attending the publication of lists of policyholders, open to everybody's examination, outweigh any possible good therefrom, and that the policyholders themselves, whose welfare the law should serve, do not desire such publication.

Mr. McIntosh accuses Mr. Untermyer of having written his letter not as a business communication but for the purpose of having it published. He denies that the New York Life is paying an exorbitant price in having the names of the policyholders copied.

You now have the facts on this subject. You could have had them at any time upon inquiry. I am satisfied you did not want them. I trust, however, that you will not feel warranted in again giving to the public press the erroneous statement on this subject you have now twice published.

Mr. McIntosh denies that any stenciled lists of the policyholders are being prepared for distribution among the agents to help them in their campaign for proxies. He concludes as follows:

In order once and for all to set at rest any further question on this subject, I now in conclusion repeat what I said in substance at the outset—this company will observe this law both in the spirit and in the letter. Less than this it has not and never had the slightest disposition to do, and will not do; more than this it has no right to do.

Provident Savings Life Assurance Society

OF NEW YORK.

TIMOTHY L. WOODRUFF, PRESIDENT.

THE BEST COMPANY FOR POLICY HOLDERS AND AGENTS.

SUCCESSFUL AGENTS, AND GENTLEMEN SEEKING REMUNERATIVE BUSINESS CONNECTIONS, MAY APPLY TO THE HEAD OFFICE, OR ANY OF THE SOCIETY'S GENERAL AGENTS.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO.

LIMITED,

OF LONDON.

OFFICE:

Cor. Pine & William Sts., New York.

THERE'S A REASON.....

why the agents of the

Continental Casualty Company

CHICAGO, ILL.,

have been able to build for it the largest personal disability insurance business in America.

If you would share in the prosperity of CONTINENTAL representatives, address

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Security Mutual Life Insurance Co.

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CHAS. M. TURNER, President.

Insurance solicitors of character and ability, having a record for quality rather than quantity, can secure good territory and a liberal contract by addressing

C. H. JACKSON, Agency Secretary

HOME OFFICE

1825. THE 1906.

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

Cash Capital	$400,000.00
Reinsurance and all Liabilities	3,619,488.08
Surplus	3,004,551.61
Total January 1, 1906	$7,024,039.69

R. DALE BENSON, Pres. W. GARDNER CROWELL, Sec.
JOHN L. THOMSON, Vice-Pres. CHARLES W. MERRILL, Asst. Sec.
WM. J. DAWSON, Sec. of Agency Department.

National Life Insurance Co.

MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Established in 1850. Operating in 44 States.

JOSEPH A. DE BOER, President. H. M. CUTLER, Treasurer.
JAMES T. PHELPS, Vice-President. A. B. BISBEE, Medical Director.
JAMES B. ESTEE, 2d Vice-President. C. E. MOULTON, Actuary.
OSMAN D. CLARK, Secretary. F. A. HOWLAND, Counsel.

This Company held January 1, 1906, and gained during the past decade:

Assets	$34,519,093.04	Gain, 184 per cent.
Surplus	3,821,752.51	Gain, 165 per cent.
Insurance	145,480,904.00	Gain, 109 per cent.

Sells the Best and Most Modern in Life, Term, Endowment and Annuity Insurance.

J. F. MAKLEY, General Manager, 149 Broadway, New York City.
A. H. GSELLER, Manager, 201-203 Lawyers Building, Newark, N. J.

1860 46th year 1906

HOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

GEORGE E. IDE, President

Assets, $17,886,594.88. Liabilities, $16,457,194.41 (Including Dividend-Endowment Fund)

Dividend-Endowment Fund (Deferred Dividends)	$1,453,907.00
Contingent Fund	225,000.00
Net Surplus	1,204,400.47
Insurance in Force	79,775,340.00

The Home Life supplied one of the marvels of the present investigation—an insurance company without any obvious scandals.—*N. Y. Tribune*, 12-12-05.

Mr. Hughes' inquisition was not less searching than before, but the officers of the Home Life insurance company apparently survived it unscathed.—*N. Y. Herald*, 12-12-05.

Detailed Statement furnished upon request

THE COLUMBIAN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

BOSTON, MASS.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PERCY PARKER President. FRANKLIN W. GANSE, Vice-President and Director of Agecln

WILLIAM H. BROWN, Secretary.

Established 1782.

Phoenix Assurance Company, Ltd.,

OF LONDON.

FIRE INSURANCE ONLY. LOSSES PAID, OVER $135,000,000.

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A. D. IRVING, Manager. LOUIS P. BAYARD, Asst. Manager.

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Bankers Life Insurance Company
of the City of New York.
Foster M. Voorhees, President.
Issues the most liberal policies,
Offers the best renewal contracts to Agents of
Standing and Responsibility.
For particulars apply
Home Office, 31 Nassau St., N. Y. City.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO., INCORPORATED 1833.
FIRE AND MARINE. Head Office: TORONTO, CANADA.
UNITED STATES BRANCH.
JANUARY 1, 1906

Assets	$1,542,949.10
Liabilities	1,046,546.17
Net Surplus	$496,402.93

HON. GEO. A. COX, President. J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.

INCORPORATED 1851.
Berkshire Life Insurance Company
OF PITTSFIELD, MASS.
All Policies issued by the Company are subject to the Massachusetts Non-Forfeiture Law.
JAMES W. HULL, Pres. J. M. LEE, Actuary.
THEO. L. ALLEN, Sec. ROBT. H. DAVENPORT, Asst. Sec.
Agencies in all the principal cities of the United States.

1851 Phœnix Mutual Life Insurance Company 1906
OF HARTFORD, CONN.,
Issues every Desirable Form of Policy known to modern Life Insurance.
The only Company that writes the combined Life-Endowment-Annuity contract, the most attractive policy for Agents to sell or Insurers to buy.
Protection for Self, for Family, for Business. Specimen policy, rates, etc., will be given on application to the Home Office.
JOHN M. HOLCOMBE, President.
WILLIAM A. MOORE, First Vice Prest. ARCHIBALD A. WELCH, Second Vice Prest.
SILAS H. CORNWELL, Secretary.

CONSERVATIVE
PROGRESSIVE
FAITHFUL

¶ Some of the cardinal aims of the *Union Mutual* management are—to be conservative in the choice of investments—to be progressive in the prosecution of the business—to be faithful to the interests of policy-holders.

Agents of like inclination cordially welcomed.
Union Mutual Life Ins. Co.
Portland, Maine
FRED E. RICHARDS, *Pres.* ARTHUR L. BATES, *Vice-Pres.*
For Territory address either
EDSON D. SCOFIELD, Superintendent, 180 Broadway, N. Y. City.
THORNTON CHASE, Superintendent, 84 Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

Western Assurance Company
HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, CANADA.
INCORPORATED 1851.
Hon. GEO. A. COX, President.
J. J. KENNY, V. P. and Managing Director.
UNITED STATES STATEMENT, JANUARY, 1906.

Assets	$2,397,608.00
Surplus in United States	782,945.00

For a DEFINITE PROMISE to PAY, well defined, no experiment and taking no chances that technical legal definitions of what constitutes an accident will be used to defeat claims, BUY YOUR INSURANCE in and SELL the policies of
"THE CENTRAL," of Pittsburgh, Pa.
Its management will tell you in YES or NO answers what it covers and what it does not cover. AGENTS WANTED.
For particulars address **The Central Accident Ins. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

SURETY ON BONDS

Home Office Building
New York
American Surety Company of New York
100 Broadway, - New York
Capital, $2,500,000
Bonds issued for Employees, Administrators, Guardians, and in Judicial Proceedings.
STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Resources (including Capital, $2,500,000)	$6,193,137.53
Liabilities (including Reserve, $856,188.70)	1,347,671.23

HENRY D. LYMAN, *President.* W. S. JOHNSTON, *Vice-President.*

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company.

1846—1906.

Transactions since Organization

A UNIQUE RECORD

On January 1st, 1906, THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL had received from its members	$238,241,229.24
It had returned to them, their families, or their beneficiaries	240,738,252.73
Or more than it had received from them by.....	2,497,023.49
It had assets on hand of.....	66,038,928.62
With a surplus of.....	4,897,647.21
With which to meet an actual and contingent liability of.....	61,141,281.41
On 71,307 policies, insuring.....	169,412,783.00

JOHN M. TAYLOR, President. WILLIAM H. DEMING, Secretary.

Insurance Co. of North America,

232 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
FOUNDED 1792.

Assets, January 1, 1906.....		$13,015,852
LIABILITIES—Reserved for Reinsurance and all other claims.....	$6,389,121	
Capital Stock.....	3,000,000	
Surplus and Contingent Fund over all Liabilities	3,626,731	$13,015,852

Agents in all the principal towns and cities.

CHARLES PLATT, President. EUGENE L. ELLISON, Vice-President.
GREVILLE E. FRYER, Secretary and Treasurer. BENJAMIN RUSH, Second Vice-President.
HENRY W. FARNUM, Marine Secretary. T. HOUARD WRIGHT, Assistant Secretary.

Offices in New York: Fire, 51 William St.; Marine, 63 Wall St.

Caledonian Ins. Co.,

FOUNDED 1805. *of Scotland.*

"The Oldest Scottish Insurance Office."

UNITED STATES HEAD OFFICE:
Caledonian Building, 50 and 52 Pine St., New York City

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1906.

Assets	$1,883,210.00
Liabilities	1,215,950.00
Net Surplus Over All Liabilities.....	$667,260.00

CHARLES H. POST, U. S. Mgr.
R. C. CHRISTOPHER, Ass't U. S. Mgr.

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Offered Intelligent and Reliable Men

to enter the service of

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INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

It is the largest and best Company in the world and the most satisfactory Company to represent

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GEORGE T. DEXTER

Second Vice-President

32 Nassau Street, New York City

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